



Base rate cut adds to Budget cheer

The high street banks cut base rates from 12.5 to 11.5 per cent. The big building societies reduced mortgage rates to 12 per cent.

The Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, criticized oil companies for raising pump prices after the 7.5p increase in petrol duty in the Budget.

The Government is to recruit 2,000 "employment advisers" for Jobcentres in a £500 million campaign aimed at combating long-term unemployment.

By David Smith and Lawrence Lever

Waves of optimism swept through financial markets yesterday in a strong declaration of approval for Mr Nigel Lawson's Budget.

Britain's two biggest building societies, the Halifax and Abbey National, immediately reduced their mortgage rates by 0.75 percentage points to 12 per cent.

Mr Lawson was talking to journalists at a briefing at No 11 Downing Street shortly after the round of base rate reductions, led by Barclays, had begun.

The Bank of England, in reducing its dealing rates, indicated that the move was in response to the Budget, the pound's firmness and recent good figures for the money supply and public borrowing.

The pound rose in spite of the reduction in base rates. It gained 10 points against the dollar to \$1.4782, and posted a more impressive two-pip gain to DM3.3442 against the German mark.

index rose by 0.5 points to 74.8.

However, most of the action was in the domestic financial markets. The Financial Times 30-share index rose by 14.9 points to a new high of 1,389.5.

The new 12 per cent mortgage rates at the Abbey National and Halifax take immediate effect for new borrowers.

The Nationwide building society, the third largest in the country, is widely expected to follow suit with an identical reduction tomorrow.

Investors, however, will be hit by a 1 per cent reduction in savings rates which the Halifax and Abbey National announced yesterday at the same time as the mortgage rate cut.

The new 12 per cent rate, for both endowment and repayment mortgages with the societies, follows the scrapping of endowment differential by the societies two weeks ago.

On an existing 25-year £30,000 endowment mortgage, there will be a monthly saving of £18.88, while for a £20,000 endowment mortgage covering the same period there will be a saving of £12.59 a month.

The actual savings from the cut have been slightly reduced by the 1 per cent cut in basic rate tax announced in the Budget. This is because the tax relief on the interest element of home loans is reduced by a corresponding amount.

The Budget was well received in the City, because it was regarded as a cautious and prudent package.

Mr Roger Nightingale, economics director at the stock-broking firm of Hoare Govett, said the Budget was "well balanced and politically savvy" and he predicted a long upward sweep for share prices.

The Chancellor, in his briefing, stressed the importance of lower pay settlements if the economy is to benefit fully from lower oil prices.

He said interest rates in Britain would be lower if the growth in unit labour costs were reduced and industry would receive twin benefits of lower borrowing and lower wage costs.

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Prince plans a summer wedding



Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson at Buckingham Palace after their engagement announcement yesterday.

Couple tell of secret love

By Paul Valley

The romance between Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson might appear to the public as a whirlwind affair, but it developed in secret over the past nine months, the couple said yesterday.

Sitting with his fiancée on a deep sofa in his Buckingham Palace study, Prince Andrew said: "It may seem like a whirlwind because the media only discovered about it in December-January. Quite a hot time to be in."

In a joint interview with BBC and ITN, Prince Andrew said their friendship began to turn to love last summer when they sat next to each other at a race meeting. "It was at Ascot that the whole thing took off."

The couple have been acquainted since they were children. "We have known each other since we were four or five, but we only really noticed each other fairly recently."

Miss Ferguson added: "We met up again in 1983 at a house party and became very good friends. Then in June, 1985, when I was a guest of the Queen at Royal Ascot we became better friends."

Miss Ferguson said she was attracted by Prince Andrew's "wit, charm and good looks", and the Prince said he liked her red hair.

The Royal proposal happened "some weeks ago", privately, in Scotland. Asked if she remembered what Prince Andrew said to her she replied: "Yes, but I am not going to tell you."

The Prince added that he had made the proposal not in the traditional manner on one knee, but on both.

He said he was surprised that she accepted his proposal and she had told him: "If you wake up tomorrow morning, you can tell me it is all a huge joke."

The Queen was "overjoyed, very happy and very pleased - a delighted parent" when the Prince sought her formal approval at Windsor Castle on her return from her tour of Australia. He then approached Miss Ferguson's father to ask for his daughter's hand last weekend.

Prince Andrew is on record as saying that he would know at once when he met the girl he wanted to marry because it would hit him like a thunderbolt.

But yesterday he told a Press Association interviewer: "It was not as much a thunderbolt as I expected. It was a gradual realization."

Continued on page 3, col 2

Touch of comedy as engagement is confirmed

Royal family shelters the bride

By Alan Hamilton

A mounting frenzy of speculation was at once confirmed and defused yesterday morning when Buckingham Palace finally made the official announcement that Prince Andrew has become engaged to Miss Sarah Ferguson.

Although no further details have yet been made known, it is expected that the 26-year-old Prince and his fiancée will marry in Westminster Abbey, probably in July.

The release of a statement much of whose news value was drained by weeks of press guesswork and an absence of any official denial, was not without its moments of comedy.

The announcement had been planned for 11 am, but shortly after ten o'clock Miss Sarah Brennan, a Palace press officer, walked across the courtyard bearing a sheaf of papers and distributed them to those of the waiting crowd of reporters and cameramen who shouted loudest. One

copy was seized by Peggy, an Old English sheppard. Typed on Palace headed notepaper, the announcement said simply: "It is with the greatest pleasure that The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh announce the betrothal of their beloved son The Prince Andrew to Miss Sarah Ferguson, daughter of Major Ronald Ferguson and Mrs Hector Barran."

It was dated February 19, 1986, which far from being yesterday's date is actually Prince Andrew's birthday. At midday, the couple went on television in a joint interview with BBC and ITN. Sitting at opposite ends of an ample Palace sofa, they appeared delighted but slightly awkward, the Prince laughing and joking heartily while Miss Ferguson smiled and looked entirely possessed of herself. She showed off her engagement ring with its centrepiece of a large red ruby to match her mane of auburn hair, while Prince Andrew revealed that he had made his formal

proposal of marriage at Floors Castle, the majestic home of the Duke and Duchess of Roxburgh.

Miss Ferguson, who is the Prince's senior by eight months, explained that after her marriage she would be known officially as Princess Andrew.

The Queen, according to her son, was "overjoyed, very happy, very pleased - a delighted parent". The announcement was also welcomed by the Prime Minister, who sent a letter of congratulation from herself and Cabinet colleagues to the Prince; by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who is attending a church conference in Toronto; and by Miss Ferguson's father, who left for Australia shortly after the announcement to visit his elder daughter, Jane, and to referee polo matches.

Major Ronald Ferguson, a retired Life Guards officer and now vice-chairman of the Guards Polo Club at Windsor and Prince Charles' polo manager, said of his prospective son-in-law: "I think he is a very fine person. We all know he is a very professional helicopter pilot. I admire anybody who is professional at their job."

Yesterday's announcement made an immediate, dramatic and practical difference to Miss Ferguson's life. For security reasons she will not return to her modest shared flat in Battersea, but will be instantly gathered into the bosom of the Royal Family and be given safe accommodation, probably at Kensington Palace.

From yesterday she has also had assigned to her permanently an armed officer from the royalty and diplomatic protection squad.

There is also the military commitment to GCHQ through posts abroad and the Army intelligence operation in Ulster.

Much of Britain's espionage effort is maintained through the electronic eavesdropping of GCHQ rather than the old-fashioned spy network. Parliament, page 4

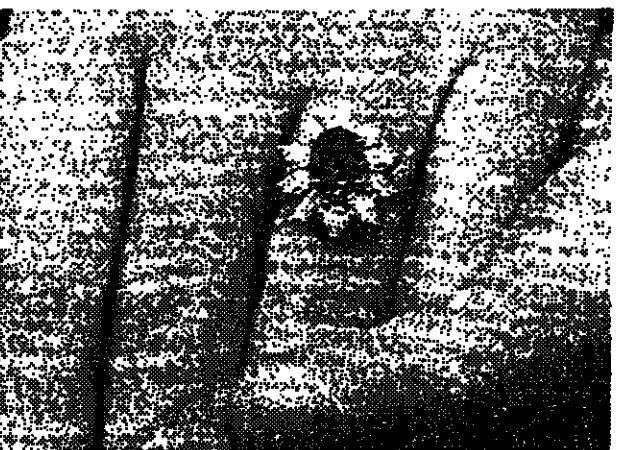
The longer-term question of where the couple will set up home remains unresolved. In the short-term, a grace-end-favour apartment in Kensington Palace is indicated, but in the longer term they may inherit Clarence House, at present occupied by the Queen Mother and her household.

Prince Andrew currently lies fourth in line of succession to the throne, and any children of his forthcoming marriage will take their place in line immediately after him.

Miss Ferguson, according to the rules of succession, as a mere consort takes no place in the line of succession. But she is not without royal connection, being descended through her paternal grandmother from the Dukes of Buccleuch, the Duke of Monmouth, and ultimately King Charles II and his mistress Lucy Walters.

Facing the spotlight 3 Grand old dukes of York 3 Profile 10 Enoch Powell 12 Leading article 13

Continued on page 2, col 8



Miss Ferguson showing off her engagement ring yesterday.

Prince Andrew was closely involved in the design of the engagement ring, a fine oval ruby with 10 drop diamonds set cluster-style mounted in 18 carat white and yellow gold. Garrard, the jewellers who made the ring, said: "The

Prince was very involved in the design. He made various suggestions and special refinements were made. The price will remain a secret, but experts who saw pictures of the ring say it probably cost about £25,000.

Chancellor criticizes petrol rise

By Teresa Poole

Mr Nigel Lawson fuelled a row over petrol price increases yesterday by describing oil companies as "fossilish" and "stuffy" for passing on to motorists the 7.5p increase in petrol duty announced in the Budget.

"I think it is pretty clear, after what has happened in the oil market and the degree of competition at the pumps, that if they are to put up prices they will come down later. Therefore it seems to be rather foolish to put the price up in the first place," he said.

BP yesterday followed Shell's lead and said that prices at the pump would be increased by 7.5p from Saturday, taking the average price of a four star BP gallon to 181p. Esso is still reviewing the situation.

The Chancellor's insistence that the oil companies were making enough money not to raise prices at all was highlighted by Shell UK's announcement last week of profits for last year almost doubled at £667 million.

A spokesman for BP said: "We are not in the business of discounting duty increases. It's the Chancellor's increase, it's not ours." But he added that competition on the forecourts would mean that prices would start edging down again fairly quickly.

In his Budget statement the Chancellor said oil companies had not passed on to the consumer the full benefit of cheaper oil and that petrol prices should fall further.

Continued on page 2, col 8

£500m for new jobs revolution

By Edward Townsend

The Government is to recruit 2,000 new "employment advisers" to spearhead what Lord Young of Giffham, Secretary of State for Employment, said yesterday was a "revolution" in methods to combat long-term unemployment.

The new staff will be installed at Jobcentres by mid-summer. Up to £500 million is to be spent in the next two years on the new range of employment measures outlined in Tuesday's Budget speech by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson.

Yesterday Lord Young and Mr Kenneth Clarke, the Paymaster General, filled in the details of what the Government clearly hopes is a series of initiatives that will make a severe dent in the ranks of the long-term unemployed before the next election.

As well as expanding existing schemes to encourage people to set up their own businesses, increased emphasis is being placed on the young and those who have been out of work for more than a year.

The new two-year Youth Training Scheme, now to be followed by the New Workers Scheme for those aged 18 to 20, is designed to ensure that school-leavers have the prospect of three years of guaranteed training and work. "We are doing as much as any

Continued on page 2, col 8

Record £11m rise for secret services

By Anthony Bevins and Stewart Tendler

A record 13.6% rise has been earmarked for the official budgets of Britain's intelligence and security services in the new financial year, according to figures published yesterday in Treasury Supply estimates.

The £11 million increase means the budgets of the services will rise to £92 million. But this figure may only represent the cost of salaries and other staff expenditure rather than the global figure for Britain's espionage, counter-espionage and security operations.

The increase could mean pay rises within MI5 and MI6 plus extra staff through reorganization prompted by Security Commission reports on the services. The budget is described as "for Her Majesty's foreign and other secret services. The Cabinet office will account for this vote," in the estimates.

The scale of the coming year's budget increase can be gauged by reference to previous rises. Expenditure in 1983/4 was £70 million which increased by 6.3 per cent to £75 million in 1984-5. This year's out-turn expenditure to the end of this month is put at £81 million which means an increase of 7.8 per cent.

The main rise for next year comes at the end of a period which has brought MI5 considerable public humiliation and criticism which began with the conviction of Michael Betts, a middle ranking

Reagan could compromise on Contra aid

Washington - On the eve of the crucial vote in Congress of President Reagan's request for \$100 million for the Nicaraguan rebels, the White House yesterday indicated that it might consider compromised proposals to delay putting the plan into effect.

But Mr Reagan was still insisting he wanted a full \$70 million in military aid, as well as a further \$30 million in humanitarian assistance.

The vote, which Mr Reagan has made a crucial test of his Central America policy, is likely to be extremely close. The White House was estimating before the debate began that it needed only about ten votes to win in the House.

Continued on page 2, col 8

Tomorrow Breaking the mould SDP Five years after the formation of the Social Democratic Party, has the face of politics really changed? Wedded to their jobs How couples cope when their professions are the same

Portfolio The Times Portfolio daily competition prize of £2,000 was shared yesterday between Mr N Roberts of Wigan and Miss Leslie Chapman of Watford. Portfolio list, page 24; how to play, information service, page 20.

I suppose we can't make any arrangements until we know the DATE? Pitmen's vote The pit deputies' union Nadrods has voted by 6,413 to 4,219 against industrial action over the closure of Bates colliery in Northumberland.

Table with 3 columns: Page, Section, Page. Includes Home News, Overseas, Arts, etc.

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US told to end 'unfair' competition on Atlantic air routes

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government is ready to consider tearing up an air services agreement with the United States over the Atlantic air routes unless it accepts a ban on flights by US carriers. In the strongest warning yet about unfair competition between US and British airlines, Mr Michael Spicer, Minister for Aviation, spoke last night of the "very serious" consequences if a new agreement was not reached by the end of July to control capacity on the Atlantic, where the US holds 60 per cent of the market.

The capacity "annex" of the Bermuda 2 agreement runs out in July and the clear implication behind Mr Spicer's words, given as British negotiators flew to Washington, was that if a satisfactory arrangement is not reached consideration would be given to terminating the agreement.

The Government would have to give 12 months notice after which there would be no formal basis for aircraft to fly across the Atlantic. The Government hopes that US realisation that they would have most to lose from a free-for-all will be an added inducement to come to terms.

"We are not playing games. We mean business. Without the capacity annex the agreement is not acceptable," a government source said.

Mr Spicer, addressing the American Chamber of Commerce in London, accused the US of breaking the rules of international aviation. "One of the fundamental rules of international aviation is that competition must be fair and equal. On the Atlantic it is not."

The US did not open its vast domestic market to foreign carriers, even for access to international services; nor did it allow foreign carriers to invest in its market.

But the European market was open to a far greater extent. US airlines could combine London and European traffic and in some cases they carried passengers to and from between London and Europe; British airlines did not have comparable advantages in the US.

Mr Spicer said that efforts to press the US authorities for greater access to their home market were not making much progress. "The only practical means we have to protect our airlines, which are perfectly competitive in terms of price, performance and product, from being progressively forced off UK/US routes, is to exercise some restraint on the capacity of US airlines."

He said that most US airlines were first and foremost domestic operators for whom international routes

were an adjunct to their domestic networks; such airlines could afford to engage in fare or capacity wars on international routes, to use them as loss leaders, to achieve domination of those routes and force off their competitors.

Mr Spicer said: "Our airlines, whose business is essentially international, cannot afford to behave in this way. We simply cannot and will not expose our airlines to risks where the cards are stacked against them. True competition can only exist where there is proper and adequate access to the market."

Mr Spicer reiterated the Government's position that it was not in a position to privatize British Airways until the negotiations had been settled, and that it could not allow any immediate prospect of privatization to influence its negotiating position on the Bermuda agreement.

He also said that the management led buy-out for British Airways had not found favour with the Government because it wanted the widest possible holding of shares, and a sale at the best price.

"This itself no doubt precludes selling British Airways to a single buyer, encouraging as it is that there is so much enthusiasm for privatization within the airline."

Satanist's 'gifts to woman'

Self-confessed satanist Dery Mainwaring Knight had a special hotel room for after-dinner sexual intercourse, a court was told yesterday.

Jeanette Clohoy, aged 27, of Basildon, Essex, said Mr Knight took her to many hotels for sexual intercourse and bought her a jeep, expensive clothes and jewellery. He was living with the Rev John Baker, the rector of Newick, East Sussex.

She told Maidstone Crown Court that they regularly visited hotels including The Old House Hotel, Chertsey, Surrey, the Post House and the Old Moat House at Brentwood, the South Lodge, Chelmsford, and the Chequers Hotel, Forest Row, East Sussex.

Miss Clohoy said: "Mr Knight had a room at the Chequers for his use after dinner where we would make love."

Mr Knight took her to meet the rector and his wife three times. She and Mr Knight then went to the Chequers for the night, she said.

On another occasion she saw Mr Baker hand Mr Knight a brown envelope which he later opened taking out about £300.

Mr Knight, aged 46, an unemployed painter and decorator, of Dormans Land, Surrey, denies 19 charges of obtaining more than £200,000 by deception from committed Christians.

He claims that the money went towards buying satanic regalia to free himself from the

devil but, it is alleged, it was spent on fast cars, women and high living.

Mr Knight gave Miss Clohoy a gold and diamond engagement ring. Miss Clohoy is the third woman that the court has been told Mr Knight wanted to marry.

"As I saw it we were supposed to be engaged to be married," she said under cross-examination from Mr Michael West, QC, for the defence.

Miss Clohoy said that she loved him from about a month after she met him. It was nothing to do with the expensive gifts he gave her.

The trial was adjourned until today.

Science report

Russians claim to have found 'first universal flu vaccine'

An unambiguous, if somewhat surprising, claim to have produced "the world's first universal anti-flu vaccine of a new generation" has just been made by Soviet scientists.

Dr Rkhatov, deputy director of the Soviet Institute of Immunology, who worked on the new compound, says it is effective because, knowing that other vaccines fight only against a specific flu virus strain, he and his colleagues adopted a new approach.

Instead of tracking down the entire flu virus range, they decided to identify its most

toxic segment. That would have been impossible had they used existing vaccines, which are weakened viral cultures. They work by "showing" the flu enemy to the body's defence system so that the white cells in the blood will produce antibodies when attacked by the virus proper.

But, Dr Rkhatov says, those vaccines are only effective when the real flu virus bears a strong resemblance to the original "flu picture" shown to the cells. Because the flu virus is very changeable, the antibodies fail to attack its many

disguises and therefore flu vaccines do not work satisfactorily.

To solve that the Russians decided to concentrate on a minute section of the protein fraction of the flu virus (a mere 20 amino acids in length) common to all viral membranes. They believed it would still contain the flu pathogen even after several mutations.

If, they argued, they could induce antibodies to attack that section, they would be well on the way towards an anti-flu compound effective against all strains of flu. But

they hit a snag; the blood's white cells ignored the protein, failing to produce antibodies against it. Clearly, the protein was not an immunogen.

Dr Rkhatov's group decided to turn it into one. Their plan was to join a molecule of the compound which triggers the activity of the blood's white cells with the protein in question.

An associate member of the Soviet Academy of Sciences, Dr Viktor Kabanov, who heads the department of high molecular compounds of Mos-

cow University, thought he could synthesise such compounds.

The researchers then turned to experiments with mice. They first inoculated them with the new compound and then with a flu virus. All the mice survived, although they normally die if they have flu. The vaccine worked immediately.

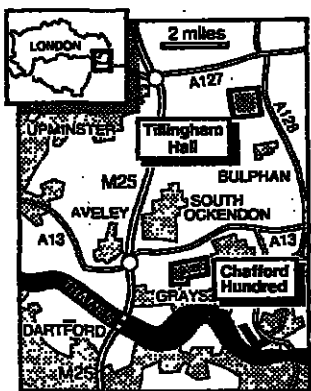
In further experiments mice were sequentially infected with all the eight known strains of the flu virus. In every case they all recovered when the new vaccine was administered.

New town group's expansionist plans

By Hugh Clayton

The consortium that wants to build a complete new town at Tillingham Hall disclosed yesterday that it had further building plans for open land in south Essex. Written evidence from the consortium against the refusal of councils to let it build the new town showed that its interest in local land went far beyond the boundaries planned for Tillingham Hall.

Lord Northfield of Telford, chairman of the consortium of nine of the largest house-building companies in Britain, rejected the councils' claim that adequate land was available on disused industrial land outside the Green Belt at Chafford Hundred near-by. He made it clear that the



consortium, called Consortium Developments, believed that housing need required both sites to be used. "With regard to the Chafford Hun-

ded site potential, the company notes the estimate of the county council that it could provide sites for some 4,000 houses," Lord Northfield said.

"The consortium is aware of this potential and many of its member companies have registered an interest in acquiring land for development at Chafford Hundred. The consortium's view is that the development of both Chafford Hundred and Tillingham Hall should be vigorously pursued."

The evidence was submitted at the consortium's appeal against the councils' refusal to let it build a town of 5,000 homes with shops and schools at Tillingham Hall. The coun-

cils, Essex county and Thurrock borough, oppose the creation of a new town in the Green Belt close to London and have given a warning of the risk of creating a continuous belt of suburbs from London to Southend.

Lord Northfield, who as Mr Donald Chapman spent at most 20 years as Labour MP for Birmingham, Northfield, said that the consortium had formed a subsidiary to build the new town at a rate of 500 homes a year for 10 years. It would differ from the new towns of past years, such as Crawley and Milton Keynes, because it would be built entirely by private companies, without any public sector role, and would be much smaller.

New life for grandmother

From Craig Seton, Birmingham

A grandmother aged 56 who happened the liver of Steve Watt, the boxer, in a transplant operation, yesterday gave a thumbs up sign from her hospital bed as her family said she could now plan a new life.

Mrs Brenda Duffy, of Broad Green, Liverpool, received the liver in a 10-hour operation at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham.

Steve Watt, aged 29, the Scottish welterweight champion, died on Monday three days after having surgery to remove a blood clot from his brain.

He had collapsed in the ring in the tenth round of a fight against Rocky Kelly in London.

Mr Arthur Duffy, aged 62, a Liverpool magistrates' court official, said yesterday that his wife, who had been ill with liver disease for three years, was recovering well.

"We are sorry that this happened to Steve Watt, but without donors all the skill and knowledge of the surgeons would come to nought," he said.

"There might be some consolation for his family that someone else has been given the chance to live. It means a better quality of life for us and we can begin again to make plans for the future."

Mr Bill Essex, transplant co-ordinator at Queen Elizabeth's hospital, said that Mrs Duffy was lucky that a liver had been found for transplantation so soon. She now stood a good chance of recovery because she had received the liver of a fit young man.

The dead boxer's kidneys were given for transplant operations at Charing Cross and St Mary's hospitals in London and his heart to the Papworth hospital in Cambridge.

Dr John Burton, the Hammersmith coroner, said yesterday that he was not going to hold an inquiry into the ethics of boxing when he opened and adjourned an inquest into the death of Mr Watt.

Mr Watt, of Iveagh Close, Northwood, Middlesex, was identified by Police Constable Peter McCormack, a coroner's officer.

The inquest was adjourned for six weeks.

Rugby may go fully co-ed

Rugby School, founded in 1567, may become fully co-educational. Although the £1,700-a-term school has taken girls into its sixth form for nearly 10 years, Mr Richard Bull, headmaster, is to propose that girls be admitted from 13 years onwards.

Fireman who defied strike fights council

A former fireman who defied a call to strike in November 1977 is claiming compensation for alleged unfair dismissal from an alternative job found for him by Citywide Council.

Mr Brian Hodson, of Rhyll, was employed by the council as a countryside warden more than two years after the strike.

At the tribunal in Colwyn Bay yesterday, Mr Ronald Stanley, Citywide's estates director, said Mr Hodson had problems in relationships with officials and had accused his employees of damaging his health. He had done his best to help, but Mr Hodson was "too awkward that nothing I could do for him could satisfy him."

After the Fire Brigades Union strike, Mr Hodson received sick pay for two years as a result of the mental strain of the dispute. The hearing continues.

Health company 'unrelated' to offences

By Nicholas Tassoni, Social Services Correspondent

Two former employees of Private Patients Plan who resigned when accused of defrauding the provident association have set up as specialist consultants advising companies on private health insurance.

Mr Eric Foxford, who in January received an 18-month suspended sentence at St Albans Crown Court after pleading guilty to charges of obtaining property by deception and falsifying accounts, and Mr Philip Morris, who received a one-year suspended sentence, have set up Company Medical Insurance Consultants in Hendon, north London, to advise companies on how to obtain the best deal from private medical insurers.

Both formerly worked as sales consultants based at the Watford office of PFP, Britain's second largest health insurer. The two were ordered to pay £750 and £3,386 compensation respectively.

Mr Foxford said yesterday that his consultancy advised about 50 companies on private health insurance, handling subscription income worth about £1 million a year.

The two men were charged along with two brokerage companies, who were found not guilty, on allegations that the brokers received commissions from PFP, arranged by Mr Foxford and Mr Morris, for business that PFP had not in fact received through the brokers.

Mr Foxford, who was quoted in *The Times* in the *Family Money* pages of last Saturday's issue, said yesterday that the offences to which he had pleaded guilty and his company's present business were "completely unrelated". The offences, he said, were "basically a technicality".

PFP said yesterday that it was considering legal action against the brokerage companies through the civil courts after being advised to do so by the judge at the end of the criminal case hearing.

Beatles await royalty ruling

The remaining members of the Beatles and John Lennon's widow, Yoko Ono, must wait to hear whether their latest move in a royalties claim against the recording company, EMI, has succeeded.

A High Court judge reserved judgement after a five-day hearing yesterday. Just over 14 months ago accounts were ordered to be drawn up showing how much the Beatles were owed in respect of two recording agreements.

Advert time

British Telecom is to begin a trial of the telephone for advertising from March 29, when the message on its speaking clock will include the name of the watch company, Accrux.

£500m for new jobs revolution

Continued from page 1

country in the world," Lord Young said at a Press conference.

The pilot schemes running since January, including the Job Start scheme under which those who get a job paying under £80 a week can qualify for a £20 top-up, had shown that many of the long-term unemployed had "given up", he said.

"Too many of the 1.3 million people unemployed for more than a year are in danger of becoming a kind of forgotten army in the ever-changing ranks of the people who go to make up the unemployment total."

The expansion of Jobcentres would mean that for the first time they would be able to offer individual help and advice, which could lead to a job, a training course, a place in the Community Programme or in the range of other schemes now on offer.

"There is a great deal of talent available among the unemployed and I hope that employers will play their part," he said.

The aim was to contact every unemployed man and woman and offer an interview as a Jobcentre. The idea was not to be a "Big Brother" and snoop on the jobless, Lord Young said. "The alternative would be to let people rot in solitude."

Small text at the bottom right corner, likely a publication or printing notice.

ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS IN MEDICAL RESEARCH YES OR NO

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Would you agree we must have medicines and vaccines which have been tested for safety?		
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Would you like to see a cure for AIDS and Legionnaire's disease?		

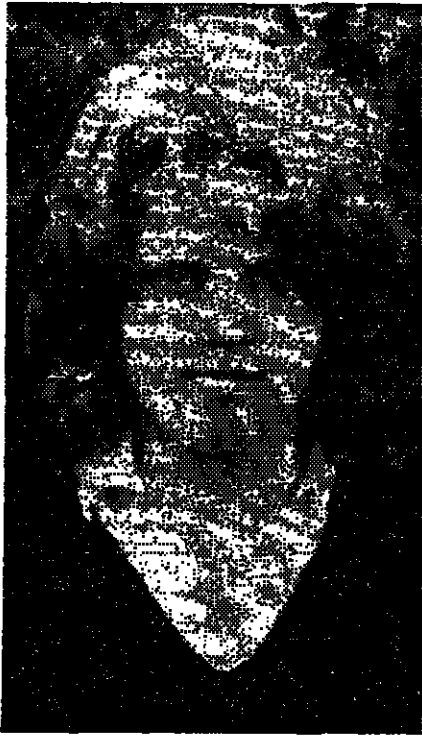
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Sarah Ferguson: from pouting toddler to Prince's bride



Four ages of a princess in waiting: Sarah Ferguson at work in the garden, aged three, photographed by Lord Lichfield; at Daneshill School in Basingstoke, aged 12, in June 1972; as a teenage bridesmaid at her sister's wedding in July 1976; and with her fiancé, Prince Andrew, in the gardens of Buckingham Palace after their engagement was announced yesterday.

By Robin Young

Sarah Ferguson, at 26, is a much more mature and street-wise young woman than the Princess of Wales when she became engaged at the age of 19. This has been reflected in the greater aplomb and confidence with which she has faced the attentions of the press during the testing time in which her royal romance was guessed at but not officially acknowledged.

Her exchanges with the reporters and paparazzi who have plagued and pestered her have been unflinchingly good-humoured and unpretentious. At the same time, she has not hesitated to use her skill as a fast driver to give her pursuers the slip in London traffic. The only time she was patently flustered was when her car failed to start at Heathrow in February after her return from her Swiss ski-ing holiday with the Prince and Princess of Wales.

As the daughter of the Prince of Wales's polo manager she was within the

royal circle, without ever having featured in the advisers' lists of young ladies eligible for royal espousal. Had the plans of those who traditionally advise Buckingham Palace about the nuptial future of the royal family been heeded, Prince Andrew should now be engaged to Lady Diana Spencer or another eligible young lady of her age.

Miss Ferguson is, in fact, nine months older than Prince Andrew, who at 26 has brought royal marriage into line with the average age for British males. Miss Ferguson, though, after her long romance with the racing driver Paddy McNally (a man 22 years her senior), is marrying more than two years later than the national average for her sex.

The affection between the Prince and the girl he first met as a pudgy schoolgirl on the polo field was first suspected last

June when they appeared together in the royal box at Ascot. Excitement swelled to a new pitch when she was invited for a week-long stay at Sandringham at the new year.

The couple were seen walking arm-in-arm and/or hand-in-hand about the royal estate and the photographers realized that this was the real thing.

Later the couple held hands at the Royal Opera House, a public display of affection that Prince Andrew never permitted himself with his former girlfriend, Miss Koo Stark.

Those who watch the royal family closely noted the serious effect that Miss Ferguson was having upon the impressionable prince when he began to lose weight quite noticeably. A trim figure while serving in the Falklands, he had gained weight quite rapidly. Best esti-

mates are that he might have acquired an extra two stones after his return from active service and the end of his relationship with Miss Stark. Miss Ferguson, it appears, already has him back in fighting trim.

There is a genuine friendship between the Princess of Wales and Miss Ferguson. Both grew up with in royal circles, went to boarding school, and suffered the dismay of having their parents' marriage break-up while they were young.

For the second time a royal prince's marriage entangles Buckingham Palace with the etiquette of dealing with bride's parents who are divorced. Last time the additional complication was that Lady Diana Spencer's step-grandmother was the queenly romantic novelist, Barbara Cartland. This time the special problem is that Sarah Ferguson's mother is now

married to a wealthy Argentinian polo player, Hector Barracatta.

Miss Ferguson is much more experienced than the Lady Diana, whose shyness could be seen in her habit of dipping her head and looking at people through awkwardly upcast eyes. Miss Ferguson is notably more self-possessed than the Princess could be at her engagement.

The Princess of Wales quickly gave up her job as a kindergarten teacher, but Miss Ferguson plans to stay working with the graphic arts company in the West End as long as possible.

She has, however, already abandoned her shared flat in Clapham, and for the months before the wedding may be seen more often at her father's country home, at Dummer outside Basingstoke. She may also enjoy, as did the Princess of

Wales, the hospitality of the Queen Mother in the pre-marriage period.

For the moment, the couple are talking of living in Prince Andrew's apartments in Buckingham Palace, though it is possible that grace and favour accommodation could be found for them in the Clock Court at Kensington Palace, where Princess Margaret, the Gloucesters and the Waleses already have their London homes.

In the long term their eventual residence is likely to be Clarence House, at present the home of the Queen Mother. Clarence House was for many years the London home of Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, Queen Victoria's second son.

The wedding date has yet to be fixed, but July or August would certainly commend themselves to police, politicians and the tourist industry as months in which the nation could well benefit from the extra pleasure of a royal wedding.

Facing the spotlight with confidence

Prince and the grand old dukes of York

By Paul Valley

The announcement of Prince Andrew's intention to marry increases the likelihood that he will soon be created Duke of York.

The title, traditionally associated with the second son of the sovereign, was last held by the Queen's father, who later became King George VI.

It would be unusual for the Queen's son to marry without first being created a duke, according to David Williams, son of *Debut*'s Pearce. "It is possible that he will be given the title on the eve of his marriage, though it is more likely that it will happen about a month before, so that the invitations can be printed in that form," he said.

Prince Andrew would be the thirteenth holder of the title which was created in 1385 by Richard II and conferred upon his uncle Edmund of Langley.

In that first creation, the title passed down to two further generations, but since then it has always been created afresh for subsequent holders. Dukes of York do not seem to have long lineages.

Edward Plantagenet, the second duke, was killed at Agincourt by "much hate and throughgild". The fourth duke, the younger son of Edward IV, was one of the ill-fated Princes in the Tower. While Richard, Duke of York, who claimed the crown in opposition to Henry VI, had his head cut off, adorned with a paper crown and stuck upon the battlements of his namesake city.

In many other cases, the dukes' lineages disappeared back into the royal line. Five Dukes of York later became King, including Henry VIII who resigned the patent on the death of his elder brother Arthur and became Prince of Wales.

The most famous Duke of York, whom nursery rhyme seems to credit with a fondness for military drill with his apparently aimless marching of the 10,000 up and down the hill, was Prince Frederick, the second son of George III. He was commander-in-chief of the English army and got into trouble when his mistress was accused of selling commissions. He was acquitted of personal corruption by 278 votes to 196 in the House of Commons, but had to resign from the post.

Couple tell how their love grew in secret

Continued from page 1

Miss Ferguson said she felt a strain at having to keep the engagement secret - "but only because I wanted everyone else to share my happiness".

Asked how he felt now that the announcement had been made, Prince Andrew said: "Over the moon", and then after a quick glance from his fiancée, he added: "Correction. We are both over the moon and will be even more so when this is over."

No date or place has been chosen for the wedding but the prince said he would like "a London wedding and a white wedding" some time in July or August.

"We would like it to be in the summer, if possible." Plans were already underway but "there are so many people to talk to and get decision from."

"If schedules do not permit us to have a summer wedding, then it will have to be sometime in the autumn."

"I cannot be more specific and it will be very nice if it can be in Westminster Abbey, like my parents' wedding."

"Sarah is already charging round looking for a dress or looking for ideas. The plans are still up in the air."

Prince Andrew said marriage was a major upheaval for most people and would be for them. But, Miss Ferguson added: "We are a good team. We are good friends. I am going to enjoy it immensely. I think I will cope with the help of Andrew."

Miss Ferguson said it would

be a "great honour" to be a princess and she was looking forward to carrying out her royal duties. She said that she also planned to "keep on working at her job in the printing and publishing world. "I enjoy my job enormously. I run this graphic firm and I work by myself. That means making cups of coffee and doing most of the hoovering. When Andrew is away I will work harder than when he is here."

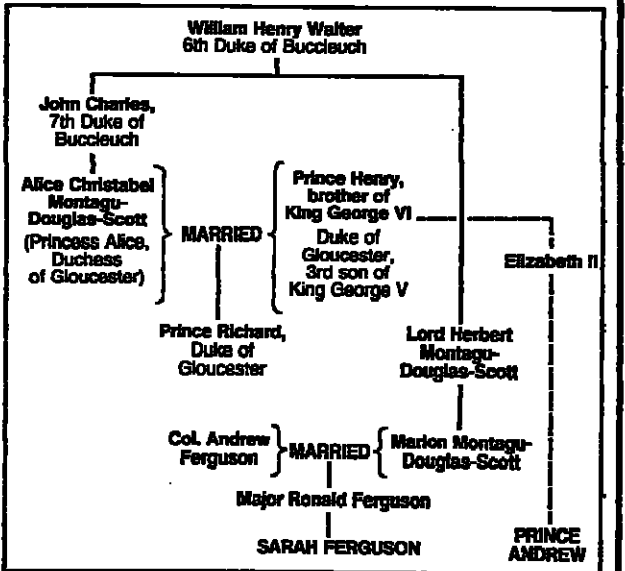
Prince Andrew added: "Sarah is her own boss and she can make her own schedule to suit herself."

Of his own career, he said: "We have discussed it at some length and for the foreseeable future I will be maintaining my Naval career as it is at the moment. It is up to her to put up with that and I think she will be a remarkable wife if she can."

Prince Andrew, a lieutenant in the Royal Navy, will be starting an officers' course at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich, next month.

He said: "I have absolutely no plans to change the course of my career because I am to be married. And in any case, Sarah has told me in no uncertain terms not to change my plans at least for the foreseeable future."

Asked what they thought of the title "Her Royal Highness the Princess Andrew", which she would bear after the wedding, the Prince grinned and said "That's fine by me".



Miss Ferguson's family tree, showing how she is distantly related to her fiancé.

Princess's fashion influence

By Suzy Menkes, Fashion Editor

Sarah Ferguson's "very good friend", the stylish Princess of Wales has already had a hand in dressing Prince Andrew's bride.

A sharply tailored navy-blue suit, with Princess Diana's favourite wide shoulder line, trimmed Sarah's full figure for the engagement pictures. The double-breasted jacket, cinched in at the waist by a very deep belt above an impressed pleated skirt was worn over the simplest round-neck

casual clothes and evening dresses, rather than "occasion" outfits. She has already been spotted shopping with the Princess of Wales in Fulham Road designer boutiques.

If Sarah Ferguson follows the Princess's advice, the wedding dress is likely to be made by one of the young British couturiers such as Bruce Oldfield or Victor Edelstein. The future bride is not yet a client of either.

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Howe: Most GCHQ staff agreed terms

SECURITY

The Foreign Secretary had made himself a laughing stock by his extraordinary conduct over the issue of trade union membership at GCHQ, Mr Denis Healey, chief Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, said in the Commons.

Could he explain his dogged determination to continue shooting himself in the foot when his wounds from two years ago must still be causing him some discomfort? he asked Sir Geoffrey Howe. Sir Geoffrey Howe rejected what he described as Mr Healey's vulgar abuse and maintained that the Government had achieved its basic objective in freeing GCHQ from the threat of future disruption while dealing sympathetically with individual cases.

Responding to a private notice question from Mr Healey, he said the overwhelming majority of GCHQ staff had accepted the revised terms of service. A few who had resigned from union membership but who requested to be asked to honour their original commitment or face disciplinary procedures.

Mr Healey said that two years after failing to carry out the fearful threats he made to union members at GCHQ, Sir Geoffrey had suddenly revived the threat and had now withdrawn it five days later.

Sir Geoffrey Howe said he had met representatives of the Council of Civil Service Unions yesterday (Tuesday) and explained that the Government's decisions on GCHQ had been taken in the interests of national security.

The small number of union members who had not accepted the revised terms from the outset had been offered alternative jobs or premature retirement on redundancy terms. He had been asked whether those staff who had rejoined unions would be liable to dismissal as a result of disciplinary proceedings. He had replied that disciplinary matters at GCHQ were the responsibility of the Director of GCHQ, who had informed the head of the Civil Service that he did not regard dismissal as an appropriate penalty unless there were factors of which he was unaware.

Mr Charles Irving (Cheltenham, C) While supporting those in GCHQ who have suffered greatly over the past two years, I do not think it is unreasonable to welcome the flexibility that has at a perhaps slightly late hour been introduced into the situation at GCHQ.

I welcome the statement made by Sir Geoffrey Howe. I think it is right that this matter now should remain on the table until after the European Court has come to some decision. I hope then that the whole re-

vision can take place in a more reasonable and sensible context. The misery and the damage that has been done to family upon family in my constituency is an absolute disgrace and it should not have happened in the beginning, but it is not unreasonable to pay some tribute to the Foreign Secretary for making a full and reasonable statement which is far more flexible than we have ever seen.

Sir Geoffrey Howe: I am grateful to him because I fully understand and have always understood the extent to which this matter of great importance to national security has also brought difficult considerations for individuals. Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party: The most constructive thing he could do now is to give a categorical assurance to all disaffected at GCHQ in order to bring total stability into the situation. Sir Anthony Beck (Colchester North, C): It has been something of an unfortunate saga. Looking to the future, can he assure the House that the new structure there is to be will provide properly for the safeguarding of their position and legitimate interests of employees of this headquarters? Sir Geoffrey Howe: I recognize that the point of view asserted by him with characteristic clarity is a point of view strongly held, but I have to be realistic. The Government's clear conviction that it was necessary to make changes in the terms and conditions of GCHQ in order to ensure continuity of operation in the organization.

Mr Martin Rees (Leeds, South and Morley, Lab) asked whether they were to understand that despite the announcement two years ago that the polygraph was not to be introduced at Cheltenham, it now was? Sir Geoffrey Howe: Following the recommendation of the Security Commission, following the Prime case, recommendations were made for experimental tests to be carried out. There has been no final recommendation as a result of tests.

Fulham leaflets on housing attacked

BY-ELECTION

Leaflets circulating in Fulham and elsewhere claiming the Government was threatening the future of private rented accommodation were without foundation, Mr John Patten, Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Construction, said during a question time in the Commons.

I can give an unequivocal assurance to the House (he said) that the Government has no intention, now or in the future, of doing anything to affect the security of present tenants in the private rented sector. Any leaflets going round Fulham saying the opposite are completely and utterly without any foundation. Mr David Heathcote-Amory (Wells, C) had opened the exchanges when he asked if the Government would introduce legislation to free all new residential tenancies from the provisions of the Rent Act. Mr John Patten: The Government has no proposals for any major reform of the Rent Act in the lifetime of this Parliament.

However, it remains our wish to encourage the supply of more homes to let in the private rented sector. In order to provide greater scope for responsible landlords to invest in rented accommodation, I recently tabled amendments to the Housing and Planning Bill to extend the assured tenancy scheme to improved property. Mr David Winnick (Walsall North, Lab) Conservative MP's want is another 1957 Rent Act which brought Rachmanism. The Opposition have a duty to warn private tenants that in the unlikely event of this Government being re-elected they will be in some sort of Rent Act as in 1957.

Mr Patten: He is talking rubbish. He is going over arguments which long ago died when what he should be doing is looking to the future and trying to find ways we can bring accommodation back into use, to help the homeless, the young and those seeking jobs, which is now empty. Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on the environment: Will he condemn the proposed meeting tonight in private of Conservative and Liberal councillors of the housing committee in Fulham? Mr Patten: That is the first I have heard of the meeting. I do condemn the tactics of the London Labour Party in putting together a meeting of councillors in Fulham and elsewhere.

Parliament today
Lords (3.0): Appropriation (Northern Ireland) Order, Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms Bill and Museums and Galleries (Prohibition of Admission Charges) Bill, committee stages; Industrial Training Bill, second reading, Commons (2.30): Budget debate.

Robbing poor to pay rich

THE BUDGET

The present Government was the first since the 19th century to carry out a policy of re-distribution by taking from the poor to give to the rich. Mr Roy Hattersley, chief Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, said when the Commons resumed its debate on the Budget. When the media froth had been blown away from the Chancellor's statement, the Budget would be remembered for its essential triviality and its partiality, he said.

It did not try to tackle the three great crises facing the country - unemployment, poverty and collapsed manufacturing industry - and it was divisive. It was a Budget for men and women with £200 a month to spend on share acquisition, for families wishing to manipulate large estates to avoid death duty, and for stockholders on television going wild with delight when their stamp duty was cut by 50 per cent.

Even the change in the basic rate of income tax, described by the Chancellor as concentrating benefit not on the rich but on the great majority of ordinary taxpayers, had quite the opposite effect. The family earning £5,000 a year was 26p a week better off as a result of that change, the family on average earnings £12,2 a week better off and the family earning £50,000 a year was £3,30 a week better off. The family living on unemployment benefit was 35p a week worse off as a result of yesterday's Budget.

The basic pattern of Tory taxation policy remained the same. The rich paid less and the rest paid more. For taxpayers on 10 times the national average the tax bill is down by 22 per cent. For taxpayers on average earnings the tax bill was up by between 1 per cent and 3 per cent.

If the Chancellor had wanted to reverse that trend of taking from the poor and giving to the rich he would not have altered the basic rate at all. His best course would have been to use his billion pounds either to cut unemployment or to increase child benefit.

He had chosen the option which least helped the low wage earner. The battle over taxation within every Party was won by the 1922 Committee and lost by social justice.

The net cost of the entire jobs package in yesterday's Budget was less than £100 million: not as much as the Chancellor

devoted to halving stamp duty and the reduction in capital transfer tax.

No wonder the job start pilot schemes in nine areas had only produced in total 70 jobs. In one area the pilot scheme had only created one job: the job of interviewing non-existent other applicants for the pilot scheme.

The Budget could have been a real jobs programme because of the opportunities given by the fall in world oil prices. This was the moment when industrial policy should be used to maximum benefit.

Interest rates were being held far too high for some time. Mr Nicholas Budgen (Wolverhampton South West, C) asked what was the proper level of interest rates? Mr Hattersley said they should be at a level at which exporters could maximize their sales. Even now interest rates were far too high and penalized industrial investment and impoverished the owner-occupier. They were much higher than Britain's competitors.

Interest rates had been manipulated to help the oil companies. He hoped the oil companies would note the comments of MPs and be believed there would be considerable competition at the petrol pumps. The Budget marked a further step in reducing the burden of income tax, though it was still too high and he hoped the Opposition would support the Government's efforts to get it down further. Ministers warned individuals to keep more of what they earned to spend it as they wished.

The real take-home pay of a married man on average earnings with two children had risen by 17 per cent since 1979. Under Labour it had grown by only 0.5 per cent.

In choosing to make a 1p reduction in the basic rate of this year, the Government was not saying that basic rate reductions were in some sense better than threshold increases. Both were needed as part of the programme of reducing the burden of taxation. The real value of the married man's tax allowance was the highest since 1945.

The Government's long-term objective continued to be to make further substantial increases in allowances. This demonstrated the Government's commitment to thresholds, but it had been time more was done on the basic rate.

The basic rate reduction would improve incentives and create self employment. One of the greatest threats to jobs in this country today was that labour

did he have such an obsession with people's capitalism and such little interest in people's jobs?

Even the plan for changing the married man's tax allowance was calculated to keep married women off the labour market. There were times in the life of an economy, or a family or a company, when it was prudent to borrow money for investment and when not to borrow was the profitable alternative.

It was intolerable that the poor were paying more tax while the richest 5 per cent were paying less. By cutting the taxes of the rich the Government had been forced to hold back benefits from pensioners, families and the long-term unemployed. The Chancellor was wildly falling those groups and so failing the nation and the nation would make him pay the price.

Mr John MacGregor, Chief Secretary to the Treasury, said because of the Government's prudent management interest rates had come down by 1 per cent, bringing further benefits to businesses and families.

He hoped the oil companies would note the comments of MPs and be believed there would be considerable competition at the petrol pumps. The Budget marked a further step in reducing the burden of income tax, though it was still too high and he hoped the Opposition would support the Government's efforts to get it down further. Ministers warned individuals to keep more of what they earned to spend it as they wished.

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Hattersley: Chancellor wilfully failing nation

aged down this morning by the Bank of England to help the Chancellor. (Conservative laughter) They should have been managed down a month ago to help the economy.

If the massive tax cuts come next year (he went on) they will be wholly dependent and wholly financed by the sale of British Gas, British Telecom and other national assets. The Chancellor talked about holding down the total of Government spending. By some slip of the memory he did not mention the £4.75 billion he intends to obtain from asset sales.

The assets were being sold at £3 billion below their true value to ensure a quick sale. That was a willful waste of taxpayers' money.

The Chancellor should have financed jobs, not tax cuts. Why

Authorities provided with resources

GRANTS

There were no grounds for believing the grants would deliberately inflict serious damage on voluntary organizations, Lord Glenarthur, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, told the House of Lords in a debate on the needs of voluntary bodies following abolition of the GLC and the metropolitan counties.

He said many authorities had already taken their grant decisions and others would be taking them soon. The Government had provided local authorities with the means and resources to fund voluntary bodies. There was no reason why all authorities should not take decisions by the end of the month.

Threat to papers on leaked reports

PRIVILEGE

Leak of select committees' reports could be stopped by bringing the proprietors and publishers of newspapers which published them before the House, Sir Peter Emery (Hendon, C) said in the Commons.

If this was done the order would soon go out to reporters and editors not to breach parliamentary privilege. Sir Peter Emery was speaking during consideration of a motion to approve a Committee of Privileges' report on the leaking of select committee proceedings. The motion was carried late on Tuesday night by 104 votes to 22 - majority, 82. The motion had been before the Commons on March 10 but the vote was not accepted by the Speaker because fewer than 40 MPs took part.

The report of the Privileges Committee recommended that

Botham to face drugs inquiry

INQUIRY

Ian Botham, the England cricketer, is to be questioned by police about allegations that he took drugs during his charity walk from John O'Groats to Land's End last year.

Mr Botham, aged 30, will be interviewed by detectives from the Devon and Cornwall force on his return from the Caribbean where he is playing in the Test series against the West Indies. A police spokesman said yesterday: "Information has come to us from a press source which has resulted in an investigation being started into certain allegations in connection with those who took part in the walk."

It is understood that Mr Botham and the other principal walkers, including John Border, brother of the Australian Test cricketer Allan Border, will be interviewed.

End of line for school cruiser

By Michael Bally Transport Editor

The Falklands veteran, P & O's former school cruise ship, Uganda, will probably be broken up after failing to find a buyer.

The 34-year-old ship, which for years took schoolchildren on cruises to North Europe and the Mediterranean, was commandeered as a hospital ship for the Falklands conflict. She returned to P & O for three months' cruising after the ceasefire and was then used again as a troop-carrier between Ascension and the Falklands. That ended last year and she has since been laid up on the Fal.

P & O says that because of rising costs it would be uneconomic to convert her back to school cruising. A Greek ship now operates school cruises and the demand is still there, but few parents and educational authorities can afford up to £400 for one child's holiday cruise. When P & O started the service, as a way of making use of superannuated troopships, they cost less than £100.

Hung councils mean higher rates bills

SPENDING

General rates in England in the next financial year were likely to rise by about 12 per cent, with a domestic rate rise of 13 to 14 per cent, because local authorities in general were budgeting for increased expenditure of about 9 per cent, double the rate of inflation, Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of state for the Environment, said during a question time in the Commons.

He added later that "hung" councils where Liberals called the shots, were incurring heavy expenditure. It was time that local authorities, particularly those in areas of high unemployment, realised the damage done to business by high rate increases. High levels of expenditure led to high rates.

Dr John Cunningham, chief Opposition spokesman on the environment, was to cut costs and hold services and he has failed fundamentally to achieve that. Mr Baker: The rates rises in

hung counties are on average 20 per cent time and time again. In Cumbria, Cornwall, Devon, Oxfordshire and Somerset, where there are hung councils, leads to higher spending and higher rates.

It is not due to a cut in grants because this year the amount of central Government grant to local government was £11.4 billion and next year, with an increase of £400 million, it will be £11.8 billion.

Dr John Cunningham said taxes were being reduced miserably, but burdens were being shifted consistently on to ratepayers. Is that not why (he went on) in the shire counties rates are averaging almost 20 per cent and in Tory-controlled shire counties the rates averages are higher than in Labour-controlled counties?

The figure for Tory counties, and there are ten of them, is 17.6 per cent on average. The average for the nine Labour-controlled counties is 15.8 per cent. Mr Baker: Local government expenditure must regrettably be going up this next year between 9 and 10 per cent.

Provincial sale spotlight Rush chairs creep into the auction

"The rush seats are still OK, otherwise they'd be for the bonfire", Mr Steven Bruce cast a disparaging look at the two lightly-built Edwardian oak chairs with rush seats that hung from two nails near the door (Geraldine Norman writes). "Two pounds apiece, I should think. I don't know how they crept into this sale."

The backs have two oak uprights and crossbars. It is a type of chair that was made in very large quantities at the beginning of the century and huge quantities survive in spite of the bonfire. Standing on a table further down the room are two more, matching this one, and set to make about £7 the pair.

Friday's sale at Colliers, Bigwood and Bewlay in Stratford-upon-Avon is one of their monthly antiques sales, not one of the twice-monthly auctions devoted to commoner furnishings and effects. That is why the rush chairs should not have crept in.

There are several attractive single chairs, all the worse for wear. A country-made Chippendale chair in oak and elm, with an attractively-carved splat, arms with a nice curved movement and an upholstered seat, is an eighteenth-century piece, but only estimated at about £50. At about £40 you might secure an eighteenth-century French provincial oak chair, which the auctioneers have already offered several times without finding a buyer.

The upholstered seat is now no more than a detached strip of sacking and sprays of stuffing. French provincial furniture, however, has a special charm; simplicity of design is combined with good proportions and flowing curves. Straight lines are always avoided in favour of curves, to excellent effect.

Then there is a little country-made fiddle back of about 1800, the solid oak broken and patched, which could make £40-£50. But the most unpopular period piece is the comode chair.

There is a well-proportioned and well-finished example of the 1860s in nicely-coloured deal or pine, the comode seat already done away with, which you might get for a tenner. Every sale tends to contain a few out-of-the-ordinary, and attractive items.

Worth mentioning is the big, old elm settle which opens out into a bed (estimate £200-£300), a box of butterflies pinned into a rich design against a red background and enclosed in a gilt gesso frame, very decorative but fragile (estimate £80), and a rivalling 1920s worked brass, with an imitation Japanese design (estimate £100).

Colliers, Bigwood and Bewlay is owned by Colliers, the international property consultants. Colliers, Bigwood and Bewlay, The Old School, Tiddington, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire (0789-69415). Viewing today 9am-6.30pm and tomorrow 9am-11am. Sale 11am. The results of this sale will be reported in The Times on Monday, March 24.



Geoffrey Smith

Mr Nigel Lawson has demonstrated for the first time that he can be a truly political Chancellor. His incapacity as a tax reformer had been revealed in his first Budget in 1984, but too often since then there has been a political dimension missing - almost as if he did not regard the task of securing public consent as really being part of his job.

This week's Budget was, in many respects, the most difficult of the three. He has presented. Having made it clear last autumn that he intended this to be an occasion for significant tax cuts, his strategy was thus destroyed by the collapse in oil prices. From then on, he was facing the threat of an anti-climax. But that was precisely what he could not afford for political reasons. He needed to confer confidence in his own performance as Chancellor, and to provide the political uplift that the Government requires in the aftermath of Westland and in the run-up to the Fulham by-election.

So the challenge for Mr Lawson was to do quite a bit within narrow limits. He dare not simply ignore the effect of the loss of all revenues and press-ahead with massive tax cuts. That would have undermined confidence in his long-term strategy. But he had to offer a sense of movement, further hope for the unemployed and the prospect of better things to come.

Basic intentions remain unchanged

The initial response of Conservative MPs has been largely favourable. That seems to be a fair reaction. Mr Lawson has presented the reputation of a prudent Chancellor. He has not gone for a fiscal bonanza. He is planning to keep control over the borrowing requirement. But the cut in the standard rate of income tax is both eye-catching and a signal that his basic intentions remain unchanged.

He also had a number of measures of direct help for the unemployed. He was merciful to the motorist, which will not have pleased Alliance candidates coveting the votes of disillusioned Conservatives in rural constituencies. He showed imagination, especially in the tax concessions to charities and in the schemes to encourage private share ownership, putting flesh on the concept of popular capitalism. He has, at the same time, left himself room, if his expectations are fulfilled, for greater generosity next year. That is important because this should not be judged as a pre-election Budget.

The chances of a general election within the next 12 months seem remote. What Mr Lawson has been doing this year is to prepare the ground for a pre-election Budget, and in political terms he has done it with some skill.

Doubts over help for unemployed

Two doubts remain. The first is whether his direct assistance for the unemployed will really amount to all that much in practice. Mr Lawson, I am sure, sees the real cure for unemployment in general economic growth. All interim measures are, I suspect, simply palliatives in his eyes. But it is of some consequence whether they are effective palliatives.

The other doubt is whether he has done more than postpone the critical choice between tax cuts and higher spending on public programmes. The question hardly arose this year because he lacked the money to do anything very much in either direction.

Mr Lawson still seems determined to concentrate on tax cuts. That could cause trouble next year as I very much doubt whether a majority of the Cabinet share that view. A number of ministers are eager for more direct action against unemployment, and they know the degree of popular anxiety over such public services as education, health and roads.

The Budget remains the responsibility of the Chancellor, not of the Cabinet as a whole. But other ministers are likely to become restive if they suspect that it is preparing a pre-election Budget along lines which they believe to be politically mistaken. It is not too bad, though, for a Chancellor to meet the political challenges of one year at a time.

Mental health plan will waste £3m, doctors warn Fowler

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

A hospital's psychiatrists have accused their local health authorities of wasting £3 million to produce an inferior mental illness service for patients.

The 14 psychiatrists and doctors in the department at Withington Hospital, Manchester, have called on Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, to set up an inquiry into a plan to build two units elsewhere in the city to replace the existing facilities.

The proposal will mean "massive and permanent" ward closures at Withington and lead to the destruction of a tradition of excellence, the team has told Mr Fowler.

"It is against the interest of patients, of teaching and of the development of much-needed research into community care of mental disorder," Professor David Goldberg, head of the department, said.

In a letter to Mr Fowler, he and his colleagues added: "Indeed, since we are the suppliers of trained mental illness manpower for the north-west of England, it is not too much to say that it is against the interests of all the mentally ill in our region."

The psychiatry department at the hospital offers specialized wards for acute mental illness, for mothers and babies, for alcohol problems, for

elderly patients and for those with severe behaviour disorders. The plan for the new units would prevent the staff from providing such a range of services, it has claimed.

The team has alleged that the mental illness services in its district have been planned without any psychiatric advice.

The plan has been approved by the South Manchester District Health Authority. It involves building a small unit at the Park hospital, Trafford, and a slightly larger unit at Wythenshawe.

"We seriously question whether it can be reasonable to have two in-patient units within four miles of one another in a single district health authority, when an economic usage of resources would indicate the advantages of having a single, high-quality unit," the team has told Mr Fowler.

"We ask you to set up an inquiry into how the South Manchester DHA came to make this decision, and to ask the inquiry to consider all the facts and all the arguments, so that a decision can be reached which does not waste public money unnecessarily and which is in the best interests of the citizens of South Manchester and Trafford," the department has said.

Drug may halt loss of memory

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The development of a drug to prevent loss of memory in ageing is possible after a discovery at the National Institute for Medical Research, Mill Hill, north London.

The finding, by a team working with Dr Nigel Birdsall, came in an exploration of novel ways of designing drugs to avoid side effects.

The class of compounds on which the team is working opens a different approach for the preparation of agents to treat disorders such as gastric ulcers, heart conditions, intestinal disorders, as well as memory loss in ageing.

There is a common factor. All of the conditions can be influenced, either blocked or stimulated, by the action of molecules which are referred to as muscarinic drugs.

In a disorder such as an ulcer, the aim is to reduce gastric secretions which aggravate the condition. In loss of memory, the purpose is to stimulate the release of a brain chemical known as acetylcholine.

The name for this category of drugs comes from the way their highly-selective action occurs on nerve cells of the heart, stomach, brain or whatever part of the body is involved. The various preparations act on the nerve cells by attaching themselves to molecules called muscarinic receptors.

The use of conventional muscarinic drugs, such as atropine (in heart preparations) or scopolamine (for sedatives), has been limited by the many side effects.

The scientists at the institute have shown that there are subtypes of the receptors which can be distinguished by several selective drugs. One of these, called pirenzepine, is in clinical trials for treatment of peptic ulcers. Another preparation is about to be used for heart conditions.

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Infertility in monkeys helped

A new treatment that overcomes infertility in women is being tried to stimulate breeding of endangered species of animals. Preliminary research by Dr David Abbott, of the Institute of Zoology, London Zoo, has begun with marmoset monkeys. The idea for the future is to treat pandas and great apes, like the orangutan and gorillas, which breed rarely in captivity.

The first results show that the hormone activity of non-dominant female monkeys can be raised to levels that should give good fertility.

Chandler in chess lead

By Harry Golombek, Chess Correspondent

for a win; his defeat could affect his chances for first place.

The Leicester player, Glenn Flear, who has already played and won his seventh-round game against Plaskett, is in the lead with five points. In the sixth round, Flear won against the Russian Grand Master, Raphael Vaganian. The scores are:

Chandler, under great time pressure, could have gone for a draw, but he tried too hard

Bones keep their secret in Lebanon's hill of Sharabil

From Robert Fisk, Sidon

Only Lebanon could have produced such a scene. Colonel Mahmud el-Haj - chief of the Sidon police, no less - his grey-uniformed deputy, a forensic scientist and the bespectacled commander of the Sunni Muslim "popular police" all stood at the mouth of the cave.

So did a clutch of Lebanese soldiers and militiamen holding Kalashnikov rifles and a number of young men with heavy, metallic bulges under their pullovers.

crews jostled on the small hill above the pathetic pile of bones and broken skulls. Had there not been, after all, a mass grave here?

It was one of those blameless spring mornings with the breeze nudging the wild flowers on the little hill of Sharabil, and it might have been a picnic spot save for the group of armed men and the important-looking policemen.

Everyone had a theory: the Palestinians had murdered Christian families and hidden them in the cave; the Israeli Christian allies had tortured Muslims in a neighbouring

cave and thrown the corpses in the tunnel next door, a crypt carved into the prehistoric rock way back in antiquity.

The facts, such as they were, were not difficult to come by. Everyone agreed that a Lebanese soldier had accidentally discovered the remains early on Tuesday morning on the tumulus above the Awalli river.

Everyone agreed that the Palestinians had maintained positions on the hill until the Israelis invaded and set up a base there in 1982.

No one could dispute the litter of human bones and skulls scattered around the dust at the cave's mouth. Some

were of children, and there were also the broken remains of wooden boxes that just might have been primitive coffins. Up to 30 bodies were probably in three adjoining caves, Colonel el-Haj announced, although only seven skulls were visible.

Certainly in one rock-hewn vault there was fresh earth and human finger bones and the glistening remains of what might have been blood. In the dark interior there were also sandstone tombs carved from the solid stone 1,500 years ago; the old tourist books even mention them.

government police officers gently vouchsafed the belief that, since the bones must be at least seven years old, the dead were victims of Palestinian guerrillas.

The young men with bulges underneath their pullovers, warriors of the so-called "People's Liberation Army", preferred the theory that Israel's allies had butchered Muslims on the hill, then shored up the corpses in the ancient tombs, albeit that the Israelis arrived only in 1982 and left last year and the bones appeared much older.

Indeed, if they were the

victims of a massacre, why did they appear to have been buried in disintegrating coffins? And why were there no clothes - not even belt buckles, rings or spectacles - lying amid the rocks? The Lebanese refugees living across the narrow wadi to the south said they had seen no sign of secret burials on the hill over the past five years.

The Sidon coroner is supposed to raise on the cause of death. Given the condition of the bodies, he is unlikely to come to any firm conclusions. The hill of Sharabil is thus likely to maintain its prehistoric secrets.



An Israeli woman army recruit getting her first lesson in how to use a submachine-gun from a woman instructor at a firing range near Tel Aviv.

Moscow praises Polish leadership

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Warsaw Pact foreign ministers arrived in Poland yesterday for a top-level Soviet bloc consultation in the wake of Moscow's praise for the Polish administration of General Wojciech Jaruzelski.

Rarely has the praise of the Polish party leadership been so strong as in recent weeks. Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister who arrived here two days ahead of other ministers, declared that the rise of Solidarity and the imposition of martial law code words, "a difficult

period" - had brought Poland and the Soviet Union closer and strengthened the "alliance of hearts".

The Soviet warmth for the Jaruzelski leadership was particularly apparent during the Soviet Party Congress in Moscow when General Jaruzelski, fluent in Russian, seemed to receive special treatment from Mr Gorbachev.

Some Western diplomats are now describing the general as "first among equals", an evident "number two" in the Soviet alliance. But such num-

ber two ranking has little foreign policy significance since the focus is on super-power conciliation rather than dialogue between East and West.

Moscow's approval, however, is significant in internal politics. It makes it almost impossible for Polish Marxist hardliners to dislodge the general and his government which no longer need fear Soviet disapproval if it tries to negotiate with the Catholic Church on a number of issues.

Curfew after two die in Malaysia riots

Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia (Reuter) - A 12-hour curfew was imposed on Kota Kinabalu yesterday after two people were killed in rioting by Muslims opposed to Sabah's mainly Christian government.

Four bombs exploded, but caused no injuries.

The Sabah police chief said that a Filipino died in the riot and a boy of 14 was killed by a car during the ensuing chaos. About 10 people were injured. Shops closed and parents whisked children home from school as 2,000 rioters burnt 30 shop-houses and 29 vehicles.

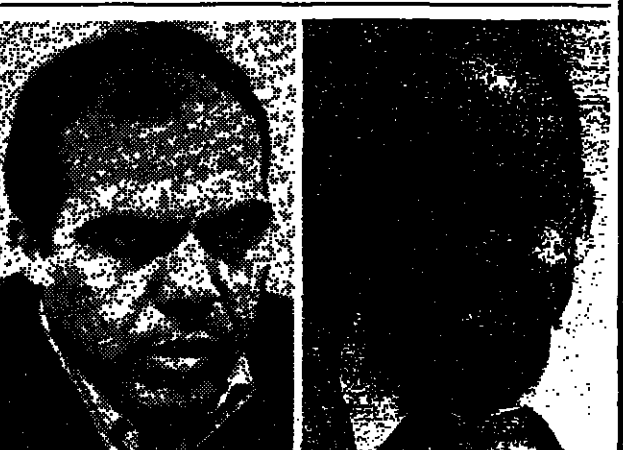
The police chief said 20 people had been detained and police were moving in to arrest between 400 and 500 militant Muslims holding out in the state mosque.

Anti-austerity violence in Panama City

Panama City (AP) - Thousands of striking workers rioted here yesterday during protests against austerity measures imposed by Panama's Government in an attempt to revive the economy.

A peaceful march in the early evening degenerated into violence near the congress building. Rioters shouting slogans against the International Monetary Fund stoned vehicles and set some on fire, then ransacked offices and shops in the area.

Several people were injured and a number of rioters arrested. A strike was called nine days ago by the National Council of Organized Workers, one of the country's biggest labour organizations, to protest at austerity measures taken on the IMF's recommendation.



The 1978 wrongly identified photograph of Mr Yassine (left) and this week's picture, taken in London.

Abu Nidal photograph was of someone else

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

A photograph claimed to be that of Abu Nidal, head of one of the most notorious Palestinian terrorist organizations, which has been published in newspapers around the world, has turned out to be of a Palestinian author who supports the rival Fatah organization.

Mr Abdel-Qader Yassine, a 40-year-old Palestinian travelling on a Jordanian passport, says he had been barred from entering several European countries after a picture of him (above left) had been distributed by Associated Press in January saying that it was of Abu Nidal. The Times was among several British newspapers to publish it.

It was taken in Sweden in 1978 when Mr Yassine was attending an academic conference there. It originally appeared in a Swedish news-

paper under Mr Yassine's name.

This week Mr Yassine, who lives in Sweden, visited AP's bureau in London to clear his name. He explained that, although he is balding now (above right) than in 1978, the picture distributed by AP definitely was of him. He said that Abu Nidal, whom he met in 1976, was very slim and much shorter than he is.

After checking his passport and other personal documents, AP said it accepted that the picture was of him and not of Abu Nidal. The agency said it had bought the photograph in good faith, on the understanding that it showed Abu Nidal, and that as soon as doubts had been raised about the identity an advisory message had been sent out asking AP subscribers not to make further use of it.

Soviet media round on Thatcher

Moscow delays on UK visit by Shevardnadze

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

As Mrs Margaret Thatcher's Government became the target of an escalating campaign of officially-inspired hostility in the Soviet media, British sources here said yesterday that no date had yet been agreed for the expected visit to London of Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

There is disappointment in London over the Soviet reluctance to make concrete plans for the visit, which had initially been expected to follow soon after the Communist Party Congress that ended on March 6. Some British Government advisers had seen it as a possible precursor of a visit to Moscow by Mrs Thatcher before the next general election.

The angry tone of the Soviet attacks has been prompted by Mrs Thatcher's rejection of sweeping Kremlin plans for nuclear disarmament, first unveiled on January 15, and by the Prime Minister's recent well-publicized meeting with a Mujahedin leader fighting against Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

Yesterday, Pravda carried a bitter condemnation of Britain under the sarcastic headline "Hanging on to Uncle Sam's Coat-tails." It claimed that the Thatcher Government had abandoned any independent policy on nuclear disarmament and now slavishly followed "Washington's lead."

This lack of independence, the article went on, had been confirmed this week in a speech by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

"Differences of opinion are only possible between those who have an independent view on one question or another," Pravda declared. "But that independence, judging by Howe's speech, is not to be seen today in London's nuclear policy."

In his speech to foreign journalists based in Britain, Sir Geoffrey accused Moscow of trying to pressure Britain into giving up any credible nuclear deterrent and seeking unilateral advantage in its proposals.

Yesterday, the Soviet Communist youth paper, *Moskovsky Komsomolets*, joined in the anti-British campaign, claiming that by its refusal to give a "positive reply" to the Soviet peace proposals "the Government of Great Britain once again demonstrated its obedience to Washington's will and its readiness to block any steps on the way to saving mankind from the nuclear threat."

Earlier, *Izvestia*, the Government newspaper, ridiculed Conservative claims that Britain needed an independent nuclear deterrent. "Here is another example of the famous British hypocrisy," the paper claimed. "It is particularly clearly seen in the word 'independence'. The nuclear

weapons race launched by Britain makes it even more dependent on the US."

At a press conference on Tuesday, Mr Vladimir Lomeiko, the chief Foreign Ministry spokesman, accused Mrs Thatcher of "distortion, to put it mildly" in her reply to the Soviet leader, Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, delivered here by Sir Bryan Cartledge, the British Ambassador, last week.

He claimed that the British Prime Minister had "artificially" introduced questions of the military balance in Asia into the question of eliminating Soviet and American medium-range missiles from Europe.

In addition to the central question of nuclear disarmament, a second factor which has angered the Kremlin and now threatens the recent marked improvement in Anglo-Soviet relations was the meeting which Mrs Thatcher held last week with Mr Abdul Haq, who requested her help in securing the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan.

Dismissing Mr Haq as "counter-revolutionary scum", Tass claimed that the London meeting was another example of the British Government "teaming up" with the Reagan Administration which, the agency claimed, was "waging an undeclared war against Afghanistan with the use of mercenary gangs".

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Basque lawyers strike to demand more courts and magistrates

From Richard Wigg, Bilbao

More than 2,500 lawyers end a three-day strike tonight in Spain's Basque country intended to draw attention to the "acute deterioration of justice" in the region.

The strike made Bilbao's courts of justice idle, with no lawyers to plead before the judges. Lawyers visiting their clients in jail were the only exception.

It was a strike with a difference. The lawyers, many of whom already earn fat fees in this big industrial city, had no thought of increasing their incomes. They wanted to put pressure on the Madrid Government to create enough courts and appoint new magistrates so that their clients do not despair of ever getting justice.

The Basque country is facing in the most acute form a problem successive democratic governments have left unresolved. There are fewer than 1,000 judges and magistrates serving the country's 3.8 million inhabitants. Roughly half of Spain's prison population of around 20,000 is awaiting trial.

There is a backlog of 54,000 cases left from last year in the Basque country, and it is growing at the rate of 5,000 cases a year.

The worst case, an inheritance dispute in Guernica, has dragged on for 17 years without settlement. Two lawyers

have already died during the case.

Lawyers in the Basque country have been the first to take drastic steps on behalf of their clients to try to force Señor Fernando Ledesma, the Justice Minister in Madrid, to act.

In Catalonia last month, 1,000 lawyers started a public campaign against the "inefficiency" of justice in their region.

"If we joined the European Community, I suppose it is not just to pay VAT, we must have European levels of justice," Señor Juan Vidarte, dean of Bilbao's College of Barristers, observed.

The problem is more acute in the Basque country because of the workload and the consequent high turnover of magistrates.

Señor Juan Guevara, Councilor of Justice in the Basque autonomous government, said that there was one magistrate for 24,000 inhabitants in the Basque region, compared with one for 18,000 in the rest of Spain, and one for 4,500 in West Germany.

Magistrates do not like serving in the Basque country for a variety of reasons, including ETA, the Basque terrorist organization, and the "free-wheeling methods" of the Spanish police combating terrorism.

"People in the Basque coun-

A sixth inquiry into dingo baby case

From Stephen Taylor Sydney

A federal court judge was yesterday invested with wide-ranging powers to hold a new inquiry into the death of the baby Azaria Chamberlain and the conviction for murder of her mother, Mrs Lindy Chamberlain.

It will be the sixth inquiry into one of the most celebrated cases in Australian legal history - the "dingo baby case".

Supporters of Mrs Chamberlain, who for more than five years has maintained that a dingo (wild dog) was responsible for the baby's death, welcomed the nature and scope of the inquiry announced in the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly in Darwin.

Senator Colin Mason, a federal parliamentarian and member of the Chamberlain Innocence Committee, said: "It would appear that the inquiry will be of a kind that the innocence committee has been seeking and I am confident that it will establish Mrs Chamberlain's innocence."

Mrs Chamberlain, serving a life sentence for the murder of her daughter, was released from prison on February 7 after the discovery near Ayers Rock of a baby's jacket which she identified as the one worn by Azaria on the night of her disappearance.

The jacket will be among new evidence to be assessed by Mr Justice Trevor Morling, a respected federal court judge. Mrs Chamberlain was convicted of cutting the baby's throat.

She and her husband Michael, a former Seventh Day Adventist pastor found guilty of being an accessory, have already sat through two inquiries, a trial and two appeals.

The Northern Territory administration, conscious of allegations that Mrs Chamberlain was a victim of prejudice in Darwin, has been at pains to ensure that there can be no comebacks from what must surely be the last inquiry.

Whatever the outcome, Mrs Chamberlain will not be returned to Darwin's Berrimah Jail. The remainder of her life sentence has been remitted.

The hearing is expected to start in about six weeks.

Hotel tycoon opposed inherited wealth



Conrad Hilton (above left) gave the bulk of his millions to charities run by Catholic nuns. Francesca Hilton (centre), daughter of his second wife, Zsa Zsa Gabor (right), forfeited her \$100,000 inheritance when she contested the will.

Charity gifts contested in battle for Hilton fortune

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles

Multi-millionaire hotel tycoon Conrad Hilton strongly opposed inherited wealth. When he died in January 1979, aged 91, he left 99 per cent of his vast fortune running to hundreds of millions of dollars to charity.

Each of his grandchildren inherited only \$15,000 (about £10,000). Two of his sisters were given \$50,000 and a third nothing. Francesca Hilton, the daughter of his second wife, the actress Zsa Zsa Gabor, received \$100,000, but when she contested the amount in court and lost, she forfeited the bequest.

He left Barron Hilton, one of his three sons, \$750,000 and half that amount to his other two sons, Eric and Conrad, Jr.

Today Barron Hilton, aged 57, chairman and chief executive of the \$3 billion hotel empire, accompanied by an army of lawyers, is due in court here to try to wrest control of his father's stockholdings in the company from the charitable foundation, which by edict of the will, now owns them.

It is a complex and bitter case and the outcome could eventually be worth as much as \$995 million to Catholic orders of nuns around the world.

Conrad Hilton, a devout Catholic, left a 15-page will instructing the beneficiaries to "promote world peace and shelter little children under the umbrella of your charity". It also said that they were to hand over the largest portion of the bequest to assist the work of Catholic nuns among the poor.

Barron Hilton's long-fought suit raises the ironic spectacle of Catholic sisters, who have taken a vow of poverty, embroiled in a struggle for control of millions of dollars.

At the heart of the matter is Barron Hilton's contention that a 1969 tax law allows only 20 per cent of a corporation to be owned by a foundation and other heirs together, and that the only way to eliminate this problem is for Barron Hilton himself to buy the entire 27.4 per cent (6.8 million shares) of his father's holdings and pass the cash on to the foundation.

However, he wants to buy the stock at \$24 a unit, the price it was on the New York Stock Exchange when his father died. Today the stock is worth three times that amount - \$641 million more than Barron Hilton says he should pay.

It now appears that there may be another way round the problem created by law. Some or all of the stock of Conrad Hilton could be placed in a "public support organization", an endowment similar to a foundation but not subject to the 20 per cent limit. Its contributions, however, could go only to a specified list of charities.

This would effectively exclude Barron

Gibraltar 'only colony in Europe'

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

In his first visit here since Spain and Portugal joined the EEC in January, the Spanish Foreign Minister, Señor Francisco Ordoñez, held two days of talks with Portuguese leaders on how the two countries can work together in the Community and Nato and resolve common problems, such as trade, drug trafficking and the 50,000 Portuguese working illegally in Spain.

At a meeting with foreign journalists yesterday, Señor Ordoñez talked about broader international questions. He believed the problem of Gibraltar would be easier to solve "now that Spain and Great Britain are friends with

vote last week to remain in Nato would make a settlement easier. "The United States can see that Spain is now an ally in Nato." He repeated that it would not permit nuclear arms on its soil.

Spain's membership of Nato would not affect Portugal's position in the alliance. "Spain does not want to enter the Nato command system," he said.

On its policy in Africa and Latin America, Señor Ordoñez said: "Spain was against direct or indirect military intervention; by the US in Angola in support of Unita rebels, or in Nicaragua in support of the Contras.



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Media criticized as police release the main Palme suspect

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

Police hunting the assassin of Mr Olof Palme were last night forced to free their main suspect because of lack of evidence.

Mr Hans Holmer, Stockholm police chief, said there was no longer sufficient evidence on which to hold Mr Victor Gunnarsson, aged 32, who was to have appeared in court today charged with Mr Palme's murder.

A grim-faced Mr Holmer yesterday inferred that a photograph of the suspect printed on Tuesday in the Malmö Socialist newspaper *Arbetet*, contrary to Swedish press regulations on the non-identification of accused persons, destroyed the credibility of identification of the suspect by one witness.

He said a second man, an acquaintance of Mr Gunnarsson arrested on Monday for suspected illegal possession of firearms, would now also be freed.

The police chief had earlier read a prepared statement criticizing the media and the

lawyers of Mr Gunnarsson, a former watchman and supporter of a right-wing political party which had conducted a political vendetta against the former Swedish Prime Minister.

The statement said: "It is vital that an open democracy such as ours shows itself able to handle the particular difficulties facing us in our endeavours to trace the assassin.

"And what happens? "Well, the defence counsel of a suspect loses its head and makes statements in the mass media in a manner that makes the Swedish Bar Association react and a respected newspaper starts a witch hunt by publishing the name and picture of an arrested person and claiming that this is no ordinary case.

"There is reason for one and all who participate in the hunt for the murderer of Olof Palme to act with consideration and restraint. The manner in which we deal with the case of the man now in

custody will be a test of how this society of ours functions when under pressure."

Referring to the release of the suspect, Mr Holmer said: "A candle has gone out." Earlier in the week he had compared the progress of police investigations to the lighting of candles.

He said no one else was now being held and 200 police had started a new hunt in Stockholm. "We are looking for technical evidence and witnesses. We are talking to people who might be able to help," he said.

"We are working on a broad front."

Mr Gunnarsson had been a member of the European Workers' Party, and in 1976 was photographed holding placards depicting Mr Palme as the Devil.

Mr K.G. Svensson, Stockholm chief prosecutor, said Mr Gunnarsson had said in a telephone conversation shortly before Mr Palme was shot dead on February 28: "Palme is on the death list."

NRA on brink of Uganda victory

Kampala (Reuter)

Uganda's victorious National Resistance Army (NRA) was poised yesterday to take control of the whole country after capturing Kitgum, the last important town in the north near the border with Sudan.

Western diplomats said it was only a matter of time before NRA forces occupied Arua, where several thousand demoralized soldiers of the former Kampala government had fled.

The diplomats said hundreds of troops in the West Nile region, of which Arua is capital, and in the north around Kitgum had abandoned their weapons and fled across the frontier to Sudan and Zaire.

The NRA, which ousted the Kampala government in late January, took Kitgum without a fight, Kampala radio announced yesterday. Kitgum, 30 miles from the Sudanese border, was largely deserted as an NRA mobile column moved in, it said.

In Khartoum, the Sudanese Government said it was disarming Ugandans who had crossed the frontier as part of its promise to help Uganda's President, Mr Yoweri Museveni, the NRA leader, to unite the country and end the civil war.

The leaders of six countries neighbouring Uganda are to meet in Kampala today for a one-day summit which Mr Museveni said was being held to consolidate their unity.

They first met in Goma, east Zaire, on January 30, one day after Mr Museveni was sworn in as President of Uganda.

Today's meeting appears designed to give the new Government the assurances it wants that its neighbours will not help the defeated regime and its armed followers, diplomats said.

The priority of the new Government is security," one Western envoy said.

The NRA has made a steady advance north from Kampala over the past two months, capturing key towns without having to fight a big battle as it pushed towards the frontiers with Zaire and Sudan.

They are not designed to force the BBC to take advertising, but EEC governments would not be allowed to keep out commercial broadcasts from other countries.

The Commission argues that there should be no restriction on imports of non-EEC programmes like *Dallas*, but European programmes must take up at least 30 per cent of programming time. Lord Cockfield said the minimum would rise to 60 per cent over several years.

Libyan planes aid Sudan

From Gill Lusk, Khartoum

Military aircraft supplied by Libya are being used by Sudan's Air Force in the war against southern rebels, according to military sources in Khartoum.

The planes, understood to be Tu22s, are being used in a campaign to recapture the garrison town of Rumbek - strategic capital of the Lakes province evacuated by the Army nearly two weeks ago after being besieged by the Sudanese People's Liberation Army.

Though the ruling Transitional Military Council has consistently reiterated its determination to recapture the town, details of the actual

offensive are shrouded in a secrecy unprecedented in Sudanese politics. A military source, who could not be named, said bombing raids had been going on for several days and the planes were being flown by Sudanese pilots currently serving in the Libyan Air Force. But he did not say what exactly was being bombed.

Rumours persist in Khartoum that Rumbek itself is the target. Another military source, however, said this would not occur until infantry support from Juba and Wau arrived.

If this is so, current offensives could have mainly



Rescue workers pumping air into a tunnel dug under the collapsed New World Hotel in Singapore to help possible survivors.

Singapore search for 18th survivor

Singapore (AP) - Rescue workers began removing large, room-sized slabs of concrete from the rubble of the collapsed New World Hotel yesterday after hearing sounds of a possible 18th survivor under the ruins.

They had resumed clearing debris after succeeding late on Tuesday in rescuing a woman believed to be the last survivor. Early yesterday they also recovered the body of an unidentified Indian man,

bringing the confirmed death toll to 12. After cranes, bulldozers and power shovels emptied more rubble into a long line of lorries, all work was halted once again to listen for sounds of human movement. Sensitive microphones were lowered into three holes in the rubble and rescuers said they heard some tapping in the eerie silence. They quickly resumed work to try to reach the possible survivor.

But as dawn broke and work

was stopped again to listen for more sounds, there was no tapping, even after a megaphone bellowed over a megaphone: "Take a stone and keep tapping. We are coming."

The building, described by the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, as a "conventional reinforced concrete structure", suddenly collapsed in a swirl of dust on Saturday. One of those rescued on Monday night, Miss Christina Pina Chion Fong, a bank clerk, said later that on the

morning the hotel collapsed she and another trapped victim, Mr Bok Gee Cheng, had gone to the basement car park and seen some men trying to prop up the floor with wood because of a huge crack.

Mr Lim Kim Sai, director of operations at the Home Affairs Ministry, identified Tuesday night's survivor as Mrs Chua Kim Choo, aged 45. He said she was in satisfactory condition, but was treated for dehydration and minor bruises.

EEC warns US on UN budget cuts

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The European Community has warned the United States that cuts in its share of the United Nations budget might violate its treaty obligations.

Three EEC ambassadors also expressed regret that they had been unable to see Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, to discuss the issue in the past three weeks. The State Department explained that he had had a very busy schedule, including the funeral of Mr Olof Palme in Stockholm.

Mr Shultz had asked his deputy, Mr John Whitehead, to meet the ambassador of The Netherlands, which is current president of the Council of Ministers, and those of Luxembourg and Britain.

In a letter to Mr Shultz, the ambassadors expressed concern that recent budget-cutting legislation and a Senate amendment was significantly affecting US ability to comply with the treaty obligations.

The legislation would cut its UN contribution by \$70 million (\$47 million) this year. The US share is now about

\$210 million, or 25 per cent of the budget.

The ambassadors made it clear that EEC countries, which pay about 20 per cent of the budget, would not increase their shares to compensate for the expected American cuts.

The State Department spokesman said: "We recognize that not paying our full assessed share of the United Nations budget raises substantial questions in terms of our obligations under the UN charter."

Brussels: New EEC procedures obliging member states to accept the will of the majority are already having an impact on Community decision-making, though the reform package has yet to be ratified by Westminster and other Parliaments (Richard Owen writes).

This has emerged from Council of Ministers meetings on an issue of symbolic significance for future European union: the creation of an internal market by 1992.

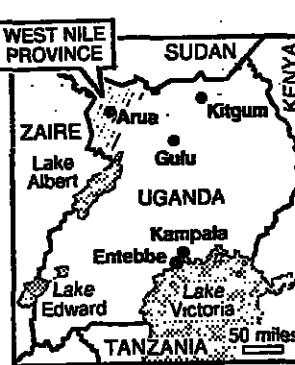
Uniform TV laws sought

Brussels - Britain and its EEC partners should be prepared to accept satellite television broadcasts with up to 15 per cent advertising content - more than is allowed by any government at present - according to proposals published by the European Commission yesterday (A Correspondent writes).

The new proposals, put forward by Lord Cockfield, the Commissioner in charge of opening up free trade within the Community, would force the Twelve to adopt identical advertising standards to ensure that viewers are not offended by foreign material.

They are not designed to force the BBC to take advertising, but EEC governments would not be allowed to keep out commercial broadcasts from other countries.

The Commission argues that there should be no restriction on imports of non-EEC programmes like *Dallas*, but European programmes must take up at least 30 per cent of programming time. Lord Cockfield said the minimum would rise to 60 per cent over several years.



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Vital piece of shuttle recovered

Washington - Ocean recovery crews have hauled up wreckage of a booster rocket of the shuttle Challenger which could provide valuable clues to the cause of the disaster in January (Mohsin Ali writes).

A 500lb piece of debris measuring 5ft by 4ft recovered from 650ft of water may be from the right rocket booster. Failure of the O-ring seal in the lower joint of the booster is widely believed to have caused the explosion.

Mr James Thompson, vice-chairman of NASA's Challenger task force, told reporters that the cause of the destruction of the Shuttle would be found even if search crews were unable to salvage crucial parts of the suspect right booster rocket.

He said that his group would present a full report on its findings on April 18

Black gold miner murdered

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

Another black miner has died in violence at the Vaal Reef gold mine, near Orkney on the West Rand, bringing to 21 the death toll there since the middle of last month.

A spokesman for the mine management said that the killing occurred during fighting on Tuesday night among residents of the No.4 shaft hostel.

The disturbance was said to be a continuation of the tribal "faction fighting" which claimed six lives on Monday, eight last weekend, and two on Tuesday of last week. In addition, four senior black miners were murdered on February 18.

Vaal Reef, which accounts for about 12 per cent of South Africa's gold output, employs a total of 40,000 blacks, of whom some 1,750 are said to have resigned "voluntarily" as a result of the recent unrest.

Meanwhile, at least three people were killed, and two houses and four cars were set alight, during Tuesday and the early hours of yesterday in pitched battles between some 3,000 school children and a criminal gang in Diepkloof.

The fighting seems to have been related to the political unrest in the country. Two of those who died were burnt alive after the pupils raided a house.

The incident reflects an increasing tendency by young blacks, calling themselves "comrades", to take the law into their own hands.

WHITE EXODUS: Emigration from South Africa went up from 8,550 in 1984 to 11,401 in 1985, an increase of 33.3 per cent, while the number of immigrants fell from 28,793 to 17,284, a decline of 40 per cent, according to figures released by the Central Statistical Services.

Women's democracy day in Chile

From Lake Segaris, Santiago

A women's coalition supported by all Chile's main opposition parties, professional associations, unions and student groups has declared today a "day for democracy".

The women have called on all Chileans to protest against the 13-year-old military regime by exercising their democratic rights; by boycotting classes and shops; by filling the streets of central Santiago

with marches for freedom, democracy and justice, and by banging pots and pans to symbolize freedom of speech.

In spite of differences, members of both the main opposition coalitions worked together to make this demonstration a success.

They are the Democratic Alliance, made up of conservative, moderate and mildly left-wing political parties, and

the Popular Democratic Movement, formed by the Communists, the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) and the Alameda section of the divided Socialist Party.

Both coalitions represent important sectors of Chilean society and have won significant electoral victories in the past year, but they have been unable to form a united body.

When Grace Fisher fell, no one heard her cries. Please listen to our Appeal.

The last two years have not been good for 84 year old widow Grace Fisher. Last year she was mugged and she had a stroke. And in November she fell in her home. Unable to reach a phone she lay alone in pain, calling for help for 15 hours. She could have died alone.

Help could have been a push button away. If Grace had had a Lifeline unit she could have avoided her agonising wait. Connected to a 24 hour control centre, Lifeline is a two-way voice communication system that, in a crisis, can summon help instantly.

Even from the garden, or from bed, help can still be raised using a special radio pendant which activates the main alarm unit by remote control.

Thousands are needed. Three million old people in Britain live alone like Grace. Many afraid that an accident, sudden illness or violent intrusion would leave them helpless. Lifeline can preserve their independence and peace of mind - even their lives.

Grace now has a Lifeline unit from Help the Aged but we need to install thousands more. We urgently need your help. Please give generously. Every pound counts. Let cries for help like Grace's no longer go unheard.

(Grace's story is true but the name has been changed to protect her privacy)

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* Lifeline is a registered trademark of Telford Telecom Ltd.

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Congress examines documents brought from Manila

Marcos 'gave cash' to campaigns of Carter and Reagan

From Michael Binayon, Washington

Documents brought to the United States by Mr Ferdinand Marcos show that the former Philippines president may have contributed \$50,000 (£30,300) to both President Carter and his challenger, Mr Ronald Reagan, in the 1980 election campaign, according to congressional sources.

Mr Marcos also appears to have given a \$10,000 campaign contribution to Senator Alan Cranston of California, and sums from \$500 to \$50,000 to between 10 and 20 American candidates in state and local elections, mainly on the west coast. Senator Cranston said he knew of no Philippines contributions to his campaign.

The one-page record of contributions is among 2,300 pages, copies of which were released on Tuesday to the House sub-committee investigating the Marcos holdings in the US. The record has now been referred to the Justice Department's criminal division for further investigation.

Under American election law, federal campaign contributions by foreigners, including companies, are illegal. Individual Americans are also prohibited from donating more than \$1,000 to a presidential candidate.

It is not clear how or whether the Marcos payments were made. Reagan campaign officials denied on Tuesday that he had ever received any such contributions.

Manila (Reuter) - Singapore has rejected a request from the ousted Philippines leader, Mr Ferdinand Marcos, to allow him in for a visit, its embassy said yesterday.

Mr Marcos wanted to spend two to three weeks there but his successor, President Aquino, felt the visit would not be helpful to her administration.

A White House spokesman also said a 1982 document was untrue, and that the campaign and the Federal Election Commission had elaborate safeguards which would have brought this to light.

But members of the House sub-committee suggested the money may have been given to the Reagan and Carter campaigns by dividing it among 50 donors. Although more difficult to detect, this is also illegal.

The documents, also released to Mr Jovito Salonga, head of the Philippines commission set up to recover illegally acquired Marcos wealth, showed that the former president kept most of his money in Swiss bank accounts. There was a pattern of companies and kickbacks paid by US, Japanese and other companies to close Marcos associates, according to investigators who have seen the documents.

Japanese companies paid the most in kickbacks, including

sums totalling \$400,000. These payments involved ship repair contracts in the Philippines and work on water pumping stations.

"The documents confirm what we have suspected all along," Mr Salonga said. They showed a "raid of the Philippines public treasury", including military intelligence funds for the private use of Mr and Mrs Marcos. There was an "illicit relationship" between the Marcoses and banks, financial institutions and many corporations in the Philippines and abroad.

Meanwhile, General Fabian Ver, the former military chief, appeared with a Philippines businessman in Alexandria, Virginia, on Tuesday before a federal grand jury investigating alleged fraud in US military contracts to the Philippines.

The two men, who fled to Hawaii with Mr Marcos, were subpoenaed last week. It is investigating contracts totalling more than \$100 million which were partly financed by the Pentagon's foreign military sales and credits programme. The investigations began in 1984.

General Ver would not comment as he left the courtroom. His appearance may be one of many in US courts by Marcos associates as investigations get under way into alleged corruption during the Marcos administration.

Elections call by Aquino Cabinet

From Keith Dalton Manila

President Aquino was yesterday urged to rewrite the constitution of the Philippines and call legislative and local government elections for November.

After a three-hour Cabinet meeting - her second since taking power three weeks ago - she postponed until next week, making a final decision on whether to proclaim a revolutionary government.

Mr Antonio Cosco, Minister for Political Affairs, said a five-man commission recommended that Mrs Aquino obtain emergency powers from the National Assembly for six months while a new constitution is drawn up.

The recommendation overruled an earlier proposal that a revolutionary government would be the quickest and easiest way to overhaul the vestiges of the 20-year-old administration of former President Marcos, embodied in the 1973 martial law constitution.

Because Mrs Aquino took power on February 25 after a civilian-backed military revolt, the validity of her administration is in question and its constitution has to be clarified.

More than 100 people have died in clashes between communist rebels and government troops since then.

Meanwhile, the newly created Commission on Human Rights has said its first priority is to investigate the disappearance of more than 300 people abducted by soldiers or armed men during the Marcos regime. The commission, headed by Mr Jose Diokno, a former senator and human rights lawyer, will also investigate thousands of summary executions, massacres and cases of torture and arbitrary arrest.

It has the power to subpoena witnesses and officials and grant immunity from prosecution. It has been allowed unlimited access to classified documents.

Mr Diokno said it was likely another investigation would be made into the 1983 assassination of the President's husband, Mr Benigno Aquino. In December 26 men, including General Fabian Ver, the former military chief, were acquitted of involvement in his murder.

Meanwhile, employees yesterday seized control of Manila's Daily Express, owned by Mr Roberto Benedicto, a close associate of Mr Marcos, and sacked key officials before printing the first "special liberation issue" of the newspaper.

Kabul pledge encourages UN mediator

Islamabad - Señor Diego Cordovez, the UN Secretary-General's personal envoy for Afghanistan, said here yesterday that he had obtained from Kabul a draft timetable for the withdrawal of Soviet troops (Hanan Akhtar writes). He was hopeful that it would help break the deadlock over resumption of Geneva talks on Afghanistan.

But Mr Cordovez made it clear that he still awaited a final decision by Pakistan and Afghanistan on the crucial issue of whether direct cross-table talks should replace, as Kabul demands, the four-year-old indirect talks format. The UN official said he was quite confident the format problem would be overcome and the Geneva process resumed.

Negotiators fall out

Paris - A slanging match between the two semi-official French negotiators in the Lebanon hostages crisis, one of Lebanese origin and one of Syrian, has broken out (Susan MacDonald writes).

Dr Rezaq Raad, whose family comes from the Bekaa Valley, has said he is giving up his attempts after accusations by M Omrane Adnan that his negotiating tactics led to a January breakdown in talks.

M Adnan, of Syrian extraction, says he is President Mitterrand's personal envoy to President Assad, whom he saw in Damascus last week. But the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recognizes only the government emissaries who went last week to Beirut, Baghdad and Damascus.

"They wanted to smear my name in the election campaign," Dr Raad said. He stood in last Sunday's elections as a right-wing candidate in L'Orne, but was beaten.

Responsibility for the explosion on the Paris-Lyon TGV express on Monday has been claimed by the Committee of Solidarity with Arab Political Prisoners.



Mrs Aquino, escorted by a military aide, arrives at the palace for the Cabinet meeting.

Acid rain admission by Britain

By Hugh Clayton, Environment Correspondent

Britain yesterday accepted that sulphur emissions from its power stations had caused acid rain pollution in Norway. The admission was made by Mr William Waldegrave, Minister of State at the Department of the Environment responsible for pollution control, at the end of a visit to Britain by Mrs Rakef Surlien, the Norwegian Minister of the Environment.

"We have no division as to the scientific perception of the problem," Mr Waldegrave said in London. "Two or three years ago there was some scepticism in the scientific establishment." But while there was now substantial agreement between Britain and Norway about the impact of acid rain on lakes and waterways, the two governments had not agreed about ways to reduce it.

Mrs Surlien said that Norway wanted Britain to join the "30 per cent club" of more than 20 countries which have agreed that in 1993 their acid rain emissions should be 30 per cent lower than in 1980.

Mr Waldegrave said: "We were not able to move nearly as fast as they would like in using additional investment to bring emissions down faster than they would come anyway." He rejected Mrs Surlien's statement that the two governments had agreed that Britain must review its attitude to acid rain, which she called "the most touchy issue between our two nations."

"I would have put it a little more tentatively than that," Mr Waldegrave said. But they agreed that there were still gaps in research about the impact of acid rain, especially on trees.

Canada agrees to extend US air defence pact

From Michael Binayon, Washington

At one of the most successful US-Canadian summit meetings for years, President Reagan and Mr Brian Mulrooney, the Canadian Prime Minister, agreed to extend a mutual air defence agreement for five years.

The two men also proposed early talks on free trade arrangements. And in a significant change of heart, President Reagan accepted the importance of reducing acid rain, broadly endorsing a report drawn up by US and Canadian envoys which calls for a large-scale pilot project to reduce US sulphur emissions.

The two-day summit here did much to restore the traditionally close relations, which have been strained by Canadian resentment recently at what they saw as US indifference on acid rain and worries that Canada was being drawn unwillingly into President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

The two leaders signed the extension to the North American Air Defence Agreement yesterday. The pact, which had integrated Canadian and US air defence systems since 1958, was due to expire in May. Last month a parliamentary commission in Ottawa recommended its renewal. But many Canadians wanted the reinstatement of a

clause, dropped in the last extension, forbidding any steps that violated the 1972 Soviet-American anti-ballistic missile treaty.

Canada has strongly opposed any broader interpretation of this treaty, and announced in September that it would not take part in the SDI research programme.

On acid rain, Mr Reagan has been made forcefully aware of the depth of Canadian feeling and damage being done to Canadian lakes and forests by wind-borne pollution from the coal-fired power plants and factories of the American Middle West. The Administration has temporarily suspended research until now, insisting more research was needed to find the cause of acid rain. But the last summit in Quebec last year commissioned the special envoys' report which called for a \$5 million US test project on new technologies to reduce acid rain.

Mr Reagan also reaffirmed the US desire to scrap all barriers to free trade between the two countries, saying such an agreement could put an end to many of the irritants that had bedevilled them. Mr Mulrooney announced that Canada would accept the US invitation to help develop an American manned space station.

Ivan the Terrible 'was killed in 1943'

Jerusalem - Evidence which shows that Mr John Demjanjuk cannot be "Ivan the Terrible", who ran the ovens at Treblinka extermination camp, has been produced by an institute in Jerusalem which studies the Nazi Holocaust (Ian Murray writes).

According to evidence 20 years ago by one of Treblinka's few survivors, the feared Ukrainian guard was killed during a rebellion by prisoners in 1943. The survivor has since died, but copies of his evidence have been forwarded to the court.

Plan for ferry link to Spain

Madrid (AFP) - A ferry link between Gijón in northern Spain and Britain is to be established by Sea Link and could be operating by spring, 1987. The *Cinco Dias* newspaper said.

Sea Link has two routes in mind, using either Portsmouth or Fishguard.

Fiat jobs deal

Turin (AP) - Fiat has agreed with trade unions to re-employ 5,500 workers laid off in 1980. Seven hundred will be back by July, and others will be hired again, after retraining, by the end of 1987.

Children die

Ormandali, Turkey (AP) - Seven children were killed here yesterday when a mortar shell with which they were playing exploded.

Mir back-up

Moscow (Reuter) - The Soviet Union has launched an unmanned spaceship carrying supplies for two cosmonauts on the Mir space station.

Angola return

Kinshasa (AP) - The 197 foreigners freed on Zaire's border by Angola's Unita rebels will be flown to Kinshasa under the care of the International Red Cross and returned to Angola this week.

Chad attack

Njamena (AP) - Chad has claimed government forces inflicted heavy casualties in a surprise attack on a rebel outpost at Chicha, near Faya-Largua, killing 235 soldiers, including "18 white Libyans".

Drug sentence

Perpignan (AP) - Raymond Keller, aged 60, of Dunstable, has been jailed for five years, with two years suspended, for trying to smuggle cannabis across the Spanish-French frontier.

Wine seized

Milan (AP) - Police investigating the death by poisoning of three people have seized 14,000 bottles of wine from supermarkets in north Italy.

Golden egg

Rio de Janeiro (AP) - A Brazilian gold prospector on his way home stumbled on an egg-sized stone which was a 165.5 carat diamond worth \$1 million (£684,000).

Cyprus tops Howe's agenda in Athens

By Nicholas Ashford, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, begins a visit to Athens today as a fresh attempt to solve the dispute over Cyprus between Greece and Turkey is about to be launched.

Within the next month, Señor Perez de Cuellar, the United Nations Secretary-General, is expected to complete work on a revised plan for solving the Cyprus problem - the third since he began his initiative to reunite the divided island in 1984.

The Greek Government is concerned that the new UN plan will skirt around issues which Athens - and the Greek Cypriots - regards as being of paramount importance, notably a timetable for the withdrawal of Greek troops from northern Cyprus.

Greece fears that Sir Geoffrey and Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, who is due in Athens immediately after his British colleague, will try to persuade Greece that the UN plan offers the best hope of resolving the Cyprus problem. There is also concern that they will try to pressure

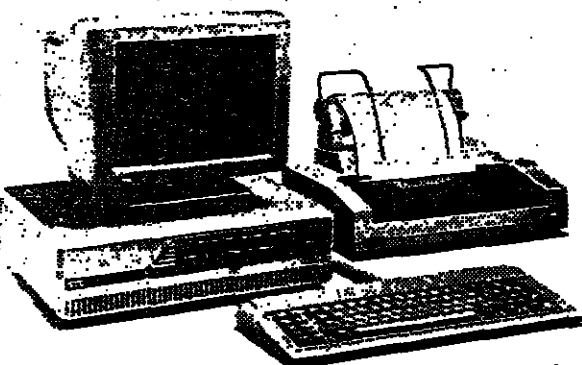
Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Prime Minister, into accepting what he recently described as being "only a cease-fire agreement".

British officials deny that Sir Geoffrey, who will also visit Yugoslavia during his four-day Balkan tour, intends to do any arm-twisting while in Athens.

Nevertheless, Cyprus will be high on the agenda of the talks Sir Geoffrey will have with Mr Papandreu, particularly as the subject was discussed in some detail with Mr Turgut Ozal, the Turkish Prime Minister, when he was in London last month. Britain still has residual responsibilities towards Cyprus as a guarantor power.

Sir Geoffrey's visit, the first to Athens by a Foreign Secretary since Sir Anthony Eden was there in 1944, comes at a time when relations between the two countries are better than they have been for years despite ideological differences.

Apart from Cyprus he will also talk about the European Community, Nato and international terrorism.



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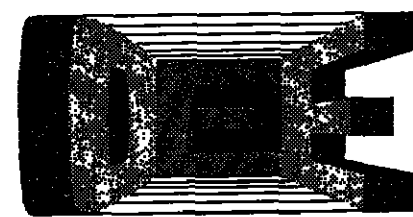
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SPECTRUM

The passions of a snap-happy Prince

THE TIMES PROFILE

PRINCE ANDREW

Prince Andrew, visiting the Maritime Provinces of Canada last year at the end of his final tour of duty in the Falklands, found himself in the company of a party of local journalists covering his presence, and struck up a conversation with an attractive young woman reporter. Instead of dissolving under his charms she adopted an argumentative, feminist and somewhat republican stance towards a member of British - and indeed Canadian - royalty. The Prince passed on.

"That woman", observed one of the seasoned Fleet Street royal hounds watching from the wings, "has just missed the opportunity of her life." At the other extreme, the Queen's second son has occasionally found that his reputation as a ladies' man has left him prey to naked opportunism. Victoria Macdonald, a 21-year old starlet who had become co-owner of a West End night club, fuelled the rumour that she had been dated by the Prince and, when approached by the popular newspapers, played her cards perfectly. She nodded, blushed, and murmured: "I don't want to say any more."

But in the end Victoria had to admit it was all a hoax, a cheap stunt to win publicity for her club. Prince Andrew was furious, and made sure that her invitation to a film premiere which he was attending shortly afterwards was quietly withdrawn. He has complained more than once, and often with justification, that the press have labelled girls as his steady dates when he has barely shaken hands with them; it is the price he has had to pay for his reputation. Only once, however, has his family felt a serious need to blow the whistle on his romantic attachments. Immediately after the Falklands campaign he took the actress Koo Stark on holiday to his aunt's Caribbean hideaway island of Mustique, and was summoned home because the lady concerned, who had appeared in films which did not require her to wear heavy period costume, was not felt to be enhancing the monarchy's good name.

For Prince Andrew, it was a hard and sobering decision, for what does a young man fresh from war need but a severe bout of rest and relaxation?

Romantic rumour has pursued the Prince ever since his schooldays at Gordonstoun, that stern academy of leadership on the windy coast of Morayshire which in recent years has slightly softened its cold-bath and hairy-chest regimen and now even admits girls to its sixth form.

When Kurt Hahn, a brilliant German Jewish educationalist, was thrown out of his native land by Hitler and re-established his elite school for future leaders in Scotland, Prince Philip was among his first pupils. Prince Andrew, unlike his more sensitive

brother Charles, took to the Gordonstoun life almost as much as his father had done. But, although sometimes portrayed as something of a dunderheaded hooray Henry, Andrew achieved highly respectable academic results, with A levels in English, history and economics, and six O-levels.

He is nothing if not his father's son - he is named after his paternal grandfather Prince Andrew of Greece - and to follow his father to the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth was more or less inevitable, considering that he showed no consuming passion nor interest in any other career. Helicopter pilots are prone to take a self-deprecating view of their job; they will tell you that it takes little intellectual horsepower, only the intelligence to absorb a few simple rules, the discipline to stick to them, and the ability to stay awake at the wheel. There is, perhaps, a little more to it than that.

The Prince's skill was put to the test in February last year when, flying a sortie in the Falklands many miles from his mother ship, a hydraulic pump on his Lynx failed and he chose to make what in the understatement of military parlance is known as a precautionary landing in a boggy East Falkland field rather than risk trying to return to HMS Brazen. By all accounts, he handled the situation with calm and skill.

"He is one hell of a helicopter pilot", said the Ministry of Defence spokesman. "But this is only what we would expect from someone of his experience and seniority."

His fellow officers on Brazen, who referred to him simply as "H", rated his skill as a pilot rather higher than his ability as an organizer, when he was given the additional duty of ship's entertainment officer, laying on films and bingo sessions for the crew, and even occasionally taking the microphone as ship's disc jockey.

The Falkland Islanders, anxious for any contact or recognition from the mother country, took to him warmly, except those who did not recognize him. There are habitations in the islands for which remote is too mild a word.

On a fishing trip to an isolated corner of West Falkland, he was approached by Claude Molkenburgh, a shepherd, and inquired kindly after his dogs. Claude in return asked if the off-duty serviceman had dogs at home. Yes, said the serviceman, "Useless for sheep work", said Claude, who indicated a trailer full of peat and suggested that some help in unloading it might produce a cup of tea.

The talk turned to how Claude's house had been damaged by the Argentinians. "Do you have a house?" Claude asked his anonymous visitor. "Er, yes, two



Sharp shooter: The Prince at work behind one of his five Nikons

actually", said the visitor. "One in London and one in Scotland." Claude was more than a little surprised. "My God", he exclaimed, "You must have bloody rich parents."

Naval careers suit royalty, if only because a ship provides long periods of privacy away from the endless public gaze. Prince Andrew fits easily into the rather hermetic camaraderie of the wardroom, with its breezy masculine air, ceaseless shop talk and technical double-speak. Service life is curiously self-contained and in many ways remote from the real world. Military flying men love the minutiae of their work, and when on leave can take days to wind down and return to speaking comprehensible English. The

same attitude spills over into Prince Andrew's current passion for photography, an interest he developed while flying a newspaper cameraman around his squadron on an assignment.

He quickly acquired five cameras, including his mother's magnificent Hasselblad, presented to her at the factory on a state visit to Sweden. And when this correspondent interviewed him at Buckingham Palace last year on his recently-published book of photographs, he was a very whirlwind of enthusiasm, of the kind that grips the newly converted, and boasted with some pride that, while reading the instruction book for a new Nikon camera, he had

found a technical error in the small print. His art, however, was not well received by the photographic professionals of the press, who wondered what, if anything, he was trying to convey.

The photographer himself was easy, charming and quite self-effacing, making no great claims for his own abilities. He freely conceded that, earlier that day he had been on his hands and knees cleaning his darkroom - converted from a palace bathroom - with Harpic. When we moved to a window to examine a set of negatives, he cautioned: "Better not do that, or they'll all start waving", and dissolved into a giggle. There was the distinct impression that making faces from the window, or leaving a

BIOGRAPHY

Name: His Royal Highness The Prince Andrew Albert Christian Edward

Born: February 19, 1960, at Buckingham Palace, third child and second son of The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh

Education: Initially by private tutors; Hestherdown Preparatory School, Ascot; Gordonstoun. Qualifications: A-levels in English, history, economics; 6 O-levels.

Career: Royal Naval College, Dartmouth. Sealed as lieutenant and second pilot of Sea King helicopter on board HMS *Invincible* as part of Falklands task force, 1982. Saw active service during Falklands campaign. Converted to Lynx helicopter course, and

posted to frigate HMS *Brazen*, 1985. Shore posting to attend lieutenant's course, Royal Naval College, Greenwich, 1986.

Major public appearances: (with the Queen): Montreal Olympics, 1976; Commonwealth Games, Edmonton, 1978; royal tour of East Africa, 1979; Supporter at wedding of Prince and Princess of Wales, St Paul's, 1981; Anniversary of colonization of St Helena, 1984. Opening of Mount Pleasant airport, Falklands, 1985. Tour of Maritime Provinces of Canada, 1985.

Civil List allowance: £220,000 a year. Appointed Counsellor of State, 1981.



Babe and boy in the public eye: Prince Andrew aged one month (photograph by Cecil Beaton); and aged eight



cardboard cutout of himself peeping from behind the curtains, was exactly what he would like to have done. He then threw open his drinks cupboard, but announced that he never touched the stuff himself.

Outside photography, which may now take a back seat, his interests are only those one would expect in a young man of his position. He shoots, and has inherited a fine pair of Purdey shotguns from Charles who has given up killing defenceless birds for pleasure. He is no great lover of competitive sport, and has not inherited his father's passion for polo. He would prefer to participate in an expedition to some remote corner of the globe, or perhaps a bit of canoeing thrown in for the thrill of it. He is happier shaking his gangly limbs to the music of Elton John on the disco floor than sweating on the playing field; more of a pranker than a competitor.

His official public life remains greatly restricted by the fact that the Navy is a full-time career, and his major engagements remain few. He has undertaken only two major functions abroad, the 150th anniversary celebrations of St Helena, and the opening of the new Falklands airport, the last public exhibition of his brief naval beard.

By continuing his naval career - he is signed up until at least 1992 - he is emulating his father, who

remained at sea after his marriage to Princess Elizabeth in 1947 until the declining health of King George VI forced him, much against his will, to shoulder a full-time public career in support of his wife. For the remainder of his naval career the Prince can expect further postings at sea; and the new Princess Andrew will experience the occasionally lonely shore life of a naval officer's wife.

Beyond the British Schools Exploring Society and the SS Great Britain appeal, the Prince's portfolio of patronages - his time being trimmed slim - his mother has shown no great anxiety to promote him into the first division of formal engagements.

In time, he will have to be found a niche in public life. The Duke of Kent, who had no training beyond the Army, carved himself a worthwhile career as vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board. Prince Michael of Kent has taken on four City directorships, although Prince Andrew is unlikely ever to face the Michael's substantial shortage of cash.

No such considerations need trouble Prince Andrew for the time being. Compared with the pressures faced by his elder brother, the relatively simple life of a married naval officer is something to be enjoyed to the full while it lasts.

Alan Hamilton

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Plastic for the plumber

It may just be the ultimate accolade to the ubiquitous credit card that there is now a town where even a humble pint of beer or fish and chips can be paid for with plastic.

Not only that, but you can also have your eyes tested, teeth fixed and hair cut without parting with real money. And should you then arrive home to find the kitchen flooded or a window shattered by a stray football, even the local plumber will accept the latest addition to the family of credit.

The town with its very own credit card is well-located in Wilslow in Cheshire and for more than 100 traders and some 6,000 of their customers the green and gold Wilslow Card now does nicely, thank you.

It was an idea dreamt up

more than two years ago by Paul Robinson and David Longworth, president and vice-president of the local Chamber of Trade, as a means of combating the attractions of the shopping centres.

It has proved so successful that now other towns throughout the country are anxious to follow in Wilslow's pioneering tracks. A similar scheme is about to go into operation in Cambridge Wells. The cards are already going to traders and will be available to the public in June with an expected response in the first year of 25,000.

The credit company operating the scheme is Credit and Data Marketing Services in Liverpool - the financial arm of the Littlewood stores, mail order and pools group. It has had nearly 40 approaches from towns and communities

wanting to launch their own cards.

Customers pay 28.3 per cent interest which, the company says, puts the card at the top end of the larger card company range but at the lower end of the major store charge cards.

David Longworth, general manager of Funnigans Store in Wilslow, said the card enabled customers to use just one piece of plastic instead of juggling with assorted cards at various shops.

"And after all if you have to call the plumber out on a Sunday you don't always have the cash in your pocket to pay him."

The main problem in launching the scheme, he says, was in getting financial backing. "I am afraid the major banks and credit companies didn't see the possibility of other towns joining in".

The scheme went into operation last September and it was expected that 5,000 cards would be issued in the first year. However, nearly 6,000 cards have already been sent out with an average credit limit of £1,000. Mr Longworth and his colleagues say much of that spending is new money, not simply transactions transferred from other cards.

There are other benefits. The credit company receives a 3 per cent fee on each transaction on the card but it retains a portion of that figure to the Chamber of Trades bank account to be used in promoting the card and the general benefit of the town. Last Christmas it provided for the purchase of an £8,000 light display which next year is expected to be augmented by a laser light system.

Peter Davenport

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 904

Crossword grid with clues: ACROSS: 8 Sweets (13), 9 Collide with (3), 10 Formless (9), 11 Explain (5), 12 Written mistake (7), 16 Rattle (7), 19 Power (3), 22 Sworn statement (9), 24 Old French coin (3), 24 Politically cunning (13). DOWN: 1 Oak fruits (6), 2 Nail polish (6), 3 Declining compoundly (8), 4 Brush lightly (6), 5 Poultry cage (4), 6 Rebellion (6), 7 Fester of Paris (6), 12 Lubricate (3), 14 Distantly (3), 15 Disgust cry (3), 16 Moist (6), 17 Inflame (6), 18 Resuscitate (6), 20 Horse lower thigh (6), 21 Unofficial absence (6), 23 Low platform (4).

SOLUTION TO NO 903: ACROSS: 1 Hamper, 4 Verify, 7 Ride, 8 Nebulous, 9 Purchase, 13 Set, 16 Comprehension, 17 Tar, 19 Earnings, 24 Pavement, 25 Dim, 26 Despot, 27 Haggie. DOWN: 1 Hurt, 2 Edammer, 3 Ranch, 4 Vices, 5 Rule, 6 Fluke, 10 Curse, 11 Abhor, 12 Ennui, 13 Swearing, 14 Tilt, 15 Scot, 18 Abuse, 20 Agent, 21 Notch, 22 Leap, 23 Fate.

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BOOKS

Revised the same in Spain

Raymond Carr

THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR

By Hugh Thomas

This "new edition" adds nothing to the enlarged and revised 1976 edition of Lord Thomas's 1961 classic...

This is a pity. The revolution in Spanish historiography has taken place mainly since 1976...

The new edition does, however, include a challenging short preface. Yet not all Spaniards would agree with Hugh Thomas that it was "good fortune" that converted imperial Spain into a core secondary after 1815...

Hugh Thomas's new edition remains what The Spanish Civil War always was: incomparably the best narrative history of that tragic episode in any language...

THE TIMES JONATHAN CAPE

Young Writers' COMPETITION

There are ten days left for entries to the 1986 Times/Jonathan Cape Young Writers' Competition...

TERESA WAUGH WATERLOO WATERLOO

'Some gloriously funny moments' Jeanette Winterson, Sunday Times

Teresa Waugh knows about the cruelty of petty human wickedness and she made me cry.

Jane Gardam, Books and Bookmen

'A beautifully observed tragi-comedy' Peter Grosvenor, Daily Express

hamish hamilton £9.95

Begins a journey in his head

James Fenton reviews an imaginative, teasing introduction to the philosophy of The Bard

James Fenton

SHAKESPEARE By Germaine Greer

Oxford, £9.95, paperback £2.95

audience in the course of performance. And this makes Shakespeare's thought more evanescent than ever...

This is a banal conclusion to the study of Othello, and it is uncharacteristic of Dr Greer to make a play "serviceable" in so narrow a cause...

So we are not to assume that any speech from the plays represents Shakespeare's opinion on a given subject. Shakespeare stands back from the dialectic of his drama...

Mr Ponting is highly intelligent, and argues his case well. His book makes one regret his foolish arrogance in deciding to leak information about the Belgians in the hope of damaging the Government he served...

An uncivil servant sounds off

Woodrow Wyatt

WHITEHALL Tragedy & Farce

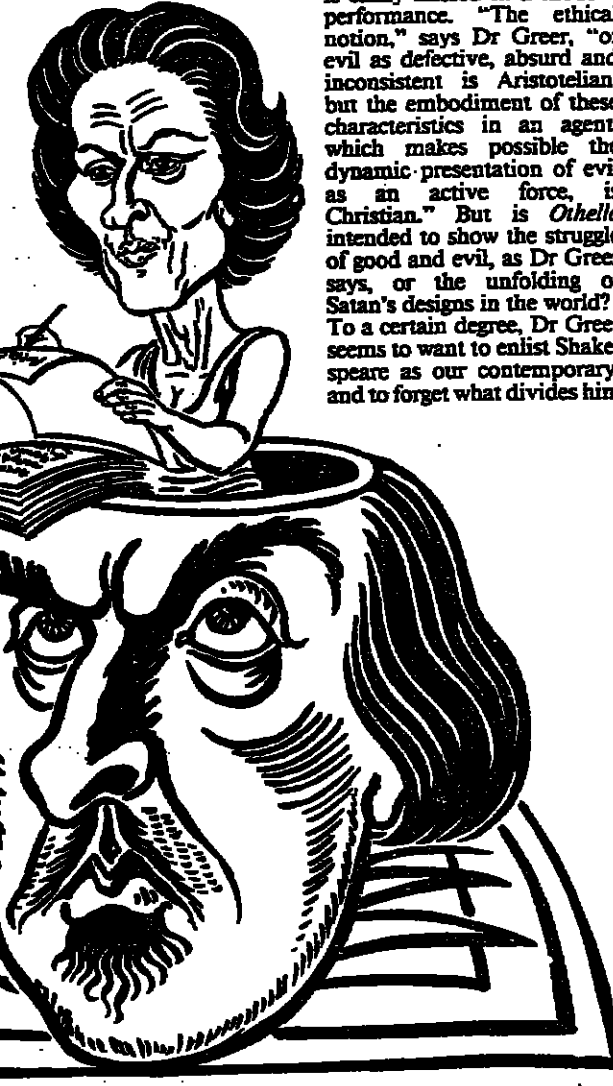
By Clive Ponting

Hamish Hamilton, £9.95

beyond the next election; in this dereliction of duty they are encouraged by the electorate. Universal suffrage militates against good government...

We shall continue to be served badly by our Civil Service until the system of recruitment and training is radically altered. Arts degrees should be discontinued...

In the fashion of the day, and by inclination, Mr Ponting believes in the curative properties of a Freedom of Information Act...



Miniaturist with a broad canvas

John Nicholson

THE NEWS FROM IRELAND

By William Trevor

The Bodley Head, £9.95

INTENSIVE CARE

By Peter Duma

André Deutsch, £8.95

THE PERSONALITY SURGEON

By Colin Wilson

New English Library, £10.95

A middle-aged Englishman, writing a guide to Florence, is lured into conversation with a fellow guest at his pensione...

He turns up, she does not. When he comes back a day later, thinking he may have misunderstood the arrangement, there is still no sign of her...

The reader of "Cocktails at Doney's", one of the 12 short stories that comprise The News from Ireland, has no such confidence in the woman's fate...

It isn't easy to pin down Mr Trevor's genius. To call him a miniaturist is to give a misleading impression of the breadth of his canvas...

"Peter Duma" is a pseudonym that hides the identity of a new (ish) duo of political thriller writers...

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PICADOR

Cracking the code of hidden shoals

THRILLERS

Tim Heald

A PERFECT SPY

By John le Carré

Hodder & Stoughton, £10.95

One of the many pleasures of the new le Carré is the depth and variety of the sub-text. I particularly enjoyed poor Hal Tresider's tie on page 442...

I sense other threads and passages, not necessarily central to the theme, where special knowledge might heighten enjoyment if it improved one's understanding...

To call the book a thriller is misleading. Absorbing, always thrilling, no Magnus Pym, one of our men in Vienna, latterly Deputy Head of Station in Washington...

That's all very well, but the life he left behind is more than a memory to those who are left in it. The Firm are in Vienna before you can say "Double Agent"...

le Carré is plainly much too restless, inventive, and ambitious to do that. But his earlier attempts to break away from the past had not been successful...

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THE TIMES DIARY

A different proposition

John Hart-Leverson, the judge who successfully appealed against conviction for kerb-crawling, was not always so critical of the police. He told Knightsbridge Crown Court this week that police had lied about his so-called proposition of three girls in a hire car...

Stepping out

The Princess of Wales had another engagement to celebrate yesterday besides that of Prince Andrew and "Fergie"; pop impresario Patrick Anderson rang in a state of great excitement to say he had just become engaged to Princess Di's step-cousin, Sally McKelvie-Paine. Certainly her fiancé seems a more, shall we say, colourful, character than Prince Andrew...

Paper tiger?

A Sunday Times or a Times journalist figures in this year's British Press Awards in May (and some may say dream on), the accolade could meet with a deafening silence: presenting the gong at the televised beano will be the man who is still trying to impose his ludicrous ban on the Labour Party talking to anyone on Rupert Murdoch's titles: Neil Kinnock.

Cautionary

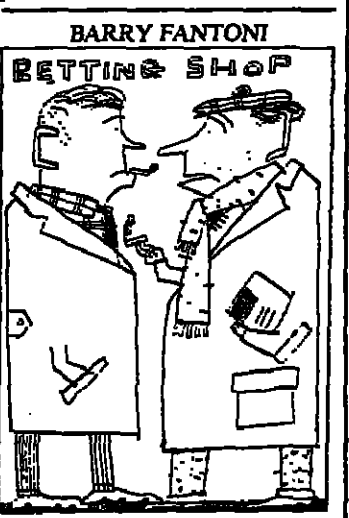
Cleveland's police magazine reports the tribulations of one eager young constable giving evidence for the first time in a magistrates' court. Stepping into the witness box he took the Bible in his right hand and exclaimed: "You are not obliged to say anything if you do not wish to do so, but whatever you do say will be taken down in writing and may be used in evidence..."

Vanessa veto

Vanessa Redgrave's call for an actors' boycott of Israel (Diary, yesterday) will not now be debated at Equity's annual meeting. Members have just voted in a referendum against getting involved in matters political. Marius Goring told me too much time had been wasted in the past getting bogged down in political issues...

Wrong party

Charles Irving, wet Tory MP for Cheltenham, has just found himself starring in an advert in the local free press for the Alliance advice centre. Instead of a picture of Richard Holme, the local Liberal candidate and former party president, Irving's mug appeared.



'Terrible. I bet against a royal announcement and for a higher tax on spirits'

Prophet taking

Small wonder David Steel did a double take during the Chancellor's speech. Denouncing the level of pay in relation to productivity and the rigidity of the pay system, Nigel Lawson suggested: "One way out of this might be to move to a system in which a significant proportion of an employee's remuneration depends directly on the company's profitability per person employed. Couldn't have put it better myself, old boy, thought Steel. In his book, Partners in One Nation, published earlier this year, Steel wrote: "A substantial part of the average person's take home pay should be expressed not as a regular wage but as a share of profit earned or value added in the company to which he or she has contributed." PHS

That the ultimate source of all lawful authority in the United Kingdom is accepted by its people (commonly called "the British") as vested in a human individual is part of their singular good fortune. It is an arrangement which imbues the exercise of government with characteristics - personality, symbolism and mystique - which, if not indispensable to the successful governance of a society, are highly valuable.

We owe our continued possession of this advantage, unique in the world, to a contrivance which even the political genius of the English - yes, I did say "the English" - needed a couple of centuries and the help of a civil war and a revolution to perfect. Baldly stated, the contrivance is simplicity itself. All political words and acts of the sovereign are - which means must be - covered by the sole advice of the sovereign's chief minister; and the question which words and acts are for this purpose political and which are not, is itself resolved upon the same advice, express or tacit.

The fact, however, that the sovereign is human and not abstract places the plain constitutional principle in a setting where its edges are blurred. The sovereign, like any other person, is not wholly distinct, in reality or in perception, from spouse, family and children. The family unit, not excluding the sovereign's, is a human reality, applied to which constitutional dogma begins to filter.

Ministerial advice and responsibility is limited to the words and acts of the sovereign. It is to the sovereign only that responsible advice is tendered. This cannot mean, however, that the sovereign's consort, for example, can wisely speak or act exactly like a private individual. I think sufficient time has elapsed for me to record without impropriety that in 1952 I remonstrated with Winston Churchill, the prime minister, against the consort attending a debate in the House of Commons, upon the principle established a century earlier that there ought not to be even the appearance of the sentiment of her Commons through any channel other than her ministers. Despite a sharp exchange with the chief whip, the remonstrance was accepted.

It is a matter of the most delicate judgement. How far might the constitutional integrity of the monarch's position appear to be diminished by words and acts, political or personal, of members of the monarch's family through all the degrees of proximity from spouse and heir apparent to other children and yet other relations further removed? Of ministerial advice and responsibility there can be no question. Neither through the sovereign nor directly can responsible advice be tendered. The attempt to do so would be rightly and indignantly repudiated, though not all communications take place in circumstances which raise the possibility of their being misunderstood as an illicit extension of the constitutional right and duty to advise the sovereign.

Beyond that exceedingly delicate and difficult exception, the nation has to depend upon the good sense and trained instinct of the persons concerned, both individually and collectively. I add the words "and collectively" because in all families influence is exerted by the members upon one another, for good or ill, and in this respect the sovereign's family cannot be different. From what is visible to an outside observer those influences would appear to have operated, more beneficially during the present reign than history records under former monarchs whose services to the nation in other respects were pre-eminent.

As Britain celebrates Prince Andrew's engagement, J. Enoch Powell reflects on the responsibilities of the monarch's family

Constitution and the royal consort

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Diana Geddes profiles France's new prime minister and looks at his prospects of living harmoniously with Mitterrand

Will Chirac this time stay the course?



By the age of 34 Chirac had been elected Gaullist deputy in the Socialist stronghold in the Corrèze and had been given his first government post as junior minister for employment. The following year, 1968, he was moved to finance, where he became junior minister to another rapidly rising politician, Giscard d'Estaing. Chirac was and still is fascinated by Giscard's intellectual powers. Giscard was impressed by Chirac's dynamism and sense of discipline. "He's a minister who will go far; he'll replace me one day," he said with more prescience than he knew.

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Our monarchy and its unique constitutional position are the counterpart of certain equally unique qualities and characteristics of the people. There is a reciprocity between the two. To a much higher degree than for a political leader (whose function is always to some extent to be a fiction fighter), the business of a British sovereign, and by extension the business of the British Royal Family, is to understand the British.

They are a people, as you may observe any day in their most characteristic institution, the House of Commons, capable of combining - you could say, needing to combine - robust egalitarianism with devotion to established modes and manners. It is a combination which Giscard attempted to pinpoint by his famous and much misunderstood word "deference", and deference depends on difference.

To appraise this baffling double character of their people with tact and accuracy is the only rule upon which the sovereign and her family can ultimately rely for living with the paradox that lies at the heart of a constitutional hereditary monarchy.

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some what reluctantly to start his studies at ENA.

On graduation in 1959 he returned for nine months to Algeria, then still in French hands, to work as the directeur du cabinet of the agriculture minister for Algeria. Back in France he worked without enthusiasm for a time on the nation's accounts at the Cour des Comptes before getting the break in 1962 that was to change his life - he was appointed chargé de mission in the Cabinet of the new Gaullist prime minister, Georges Pompidou, where began the one totally devoted and loyal political relationship of his life. To this day Pompidou remains his only political "hero".

He is vividly remembered by colleagues in Pompidou's cabinet for his good looks, non-conformism, his indefatigable capacity for hard work and his formidable memory. He seemed larger than life, slamming doors, shaking hands, kissing secretaries. He was like a firework. He took off from all sides - his arms, his legs, his ideas, "one former colleague said.

'He will go far' said Giscard

By the age of 34 Chirac had been elected Gaullist deputy in the Socialist stronghold in the Corrèze and had been given his first government post as junior minister for employment. The following year, 1968, he was moved to finance, where he became junior minister to another rapidly rising politician, Giscard d'Estaing. Chirac was and still is fascinated by Giscard's intellectual powers. Giscard was impressed by Chirac's dynamism and sense of discipline. "He's a minister who will go far; he'll replace me one day," he said with more prescience than he knew.

On President Pompidou's death six years later, Chirac backed Giscard for the presidency against his former prime minister, Jacques Chaban-Delmas. He was rewarded by being made, at the age of 41, Giscard's first prime minister. But it was to be a short-lived idyll. The two men soon started manoeuvring against each other, distrust and bitterness grew up, and by the summer of 1976 Chirac had quit. He soon set about creating his own power base, remodelling the Gaullist UDR party into his own Rassemblement Pour la République and getting himself elected mayor of Paris.

In the 1981 presidential elections Chirac ran against Giscard and was publicly denounced by his former boss for "premeditated betrayal". However, that has all been conveniently forgotten now, in the interests of forming an alliance against Raymond Barre in the two years to the presidential election. For Chirac, the prime minister's office, which he insists he did not really want, is simply a stepping-stone to that ultimate goal.

Chirac's early life is interesting because all his present characteristics were already there - seductive charm, dynamism, infectious zest for life, quick intelligence. He is often likened to a dashing cavalry officer - impulsive, colourful but perhaps a bit of a lightweight, lacking in substance and sober reflection. His critics accuse him of being without conviction or ideals and of changing tack with every shift in the political wind. He has nevertheless proved a first-class administrator of Paris over the past nine years.

After being in front of the other right-wing politicians in the opinion polls during the first three years of the Socialist government, Chirac's popularity suddenly began to slump and in mid-1984 he was overtaken by Barre. A new team of image makers were hurriedly brought in to try to bring out the "real" Chirac: the caring, warm-hearted boss; the cultured lover of Chinese poetry and modern art; the moderate and responsible statesman. The severe, black-rimmed spectacles were changed for softer tortoiseshells; the three-piece suits were banished; Chirac was told to slow down, to relax, to smile more frequently on television, to be less aggressive and demagogic.

It has been a partial success, but the other Chirac is still there.

Ronald Butt Capitalism with a humane face

Nigel Lawson is right to believe that capitalism can be popular and to act on that assumption in a Budget which has the hallmark of a politician who has total conviction in what he is doing. The kind of quasi-socialism under which the economy has for so long been managed and socialist state welfare administered has failed to deliver a stable and acceptable society, and can now, provided the change has public support, be replaced by something better.

The outstanding characteristic of the Budget is its combination of honesty and confidence. Its honesty is symbolized by the decision to accept that the loss of oil revenue makes the intended tax cuts impracticable and to hold to a public sector borrowing requirement of only £7 billion, marginally tighter than last year's figure. The Budget is quite properly built on the understanding (to which the history of recent decades is a testimony) that the plight from which the nation is now being extricated, and above all the present level of unemployment, is the direct consequence of inflation. It follows that it would be no service to the unemployed for the government to bid for popularity with tax cuts which undermined confidence in the anti-inflation policy and therefore put industrial recovery at risk.

It is on confidence in the anti-inflation policy that sustaining the fall in interest rates, which is so badly needed by industry and which began yesterday, will depend. This is of greater importance to job prospects than Lawson's direct assistance to employment through the improvements in the job-creation programme and the assistance to the growth of small businesses provided through the abolition of the lifetime capital transfer tax.

The sustained anti-inflation policy and a lasting recovery in employment are, indeed, the pre-conditions for the success of "popular capitalism." The idea that capitalism can be popular is enough to set the Labour Party jeering, but there is evidence enough of its potential popularity from Labour's own policy-wrangling for instance, over workers' ownership of denationalized assets, and council house sales.

What the public is beginning to understand that it can have, and is therefore beginning to want, is a proper share of ownership in the rapidly advancing prosperity of a new technology-based democracy; a partnership of shared interest between management and workers; and the satisfaction of greater individual responsibility in place of subjugation to a so-called collective will which is actually exercised either by bureaucrats or caucuses of over-mighty union officials.

Lawson's plan for discussions on a scheme for profit-sharing related to remuneration could make a radical contribution to this change if it can be brought to fruition. If a significant proportion of remuneration depended on a

moreover... Miles Kington Have group, will press

"And next on Radio Roundup we have Matt Forelock, who is the representative of New Zealand Actors for Pressure Groups. I must say at the outset, Matt, that this is not a group I have ever heard of before."

"No, it was only formed last week."

"And it's not very clear from the title what it actually does. Can you tell us something about the work of New Zealand Actors for Pressure Groups?"

"Certainly. There are quite a few of us New Zealand actors over here in the UK, but unfortunately there aren't many New Zealand parts in plays. What this means is that we don't work all the time."

"I'm with you so far."

"On the other hand, we've noticed that an enormous amount of air time is taken up by spokesmen for pressure groups, and frankly they don't impress us very much as spokesmen for their cause. We think we could do it far better - and it would be good acting work for us."

"Could you give us an example?"

"Certainly. On Saturday I appeared on TV as spokesman for Hands Off Oxfordshire, an anti-motorway group. I spoke passionately against the threat of the motor car. On Sunday I appeared as spokesman for the road lobby and spoke eloquently in favour of criss-crossing Oxfordshire with roads. Both sides agreed their case had never been better put."

"Don't you feel there is some conflict of interest here?"

"Not at all. Both sides have a good case. Why shouldn't they be put by the same person?"

"Couldn't it be better put by an expert, someone who has worked for the pressure group for some time and knows the subject?"

"Not really. You often find that experts are over-informed and get bogged down in detail. They make unimpressive spokesmen, whereas a New Zealand actor, starved but intelligent, will get the three essential points and repeat them over and over again. For instance, I have made three points that we are New Zealand actors; that we are out of work, and that we should be employed as spokesmen. I have

now made those three points three times, and I'll make them again if you don't stop me."

"Well, thank you Matt Forelock. And from exotic blooms, because it is said that if plans for the Channel Tunnel go ahead, construction work will destroy the last colony of cucumber orchids in Europe. To tell us more about this rare flower, we have in the studio a representative of Kent Flower Heritage, and your name is...?"

"Matt Forelock."

"Good heavens, it's you again. What do you know about cucumber orchids, Matt?"

"Three things. They are extremely rare and valuable. Building the Channel Tunnel would kill them. It would be easier to move the tunnel than move the flowers."

"Hold on, are you saying that the entire plans for the tunnel should be changed just for a bunch of flowers?"

"I certainly am. If you don't ask for more than you expect you'll never get anything. But these orchids are absolutely priceless. The Channel Tunnel is overly expensive, but it's not priceless. We have to retain some sense of priorities. There, I've made my three points again."

"Do you honestly believe what you're saying?"

"Look, I'm an out-of-work New Zealand actor who has been hired by a Kent flower lobby to come on this programme and repeat something about orchids. The answer is, therefore - Yes, I passionately believe in what I am saying."

"You managed to drag in the New Zealand bit again."

"I wondered if you'd noticed."

"You're quite an impressive spokesman, Mr Forelock. Will I be meeting you again on this programme this morning?"

"Yes. Five times, representing five other pressure groups."

"Good. One last question. You don't seem to have a New Zealand accent."

"No. None of us in the group is actually New Zealand but we felt that adopting a white minority label would make us more intriguing and get us on more programmes. And it has."



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A ROYAL ENGAGEMENT

Public pleasure at the engagement of Prince Andrew and Miss Sarah Ferguson has been widespread and unaffected.

Royal engagements naturally arouse warm emotions in the British public. But the rejoicing on this occasion is largely free of constitutional considerations. The Prince is fourth in line to the throne and it would not be surprising if he were further demoted by future royal births.

It is almost wholly prompted by sentiment, not least the enduring affection of the British people for the young Royal Family. It is a paradoxical affection in certain respects since we admire them both for performing their duties so well and for presenting an image of normality to the world. A young Englishwoman, who works in a London office yet who can trace her ancestry both to the 4th Duke of Devonshire and to Mrs Fitzherbert, fits into this pattern of elevated normalcy

rather more comfortably than would the most presentable foreign princess.

The fact that constitutional necessity played little or no part in the match further assures that public that it is truly a love match. Our interest in this may be impertinent, but it is inescapable. Dynastic marriages, however useful in settling the conflicts of fourteenth century England and eighteenth century Europe, have rarely enjoyed popular esteem, while it is a truth, universally acknowledged that all the world loves a lover. The evident happiness of Miss Ferguson under harassing public attention proves the point.

Prince Andrew has not always been so fortunate in the publicity he has attracted. Nor would many young lives, subjected to such intrusive scrutiny, escape embarrassment. But the public has seen in him — in his courage as a naval pilot during the Falklands War and in his work for charity — a

young man of charm, bravery and not a little dash.

If, like most young men, he would benefit from the love and complementary virtues of a sensible young woman, he seems to have found an ideal partner in Miss Ferguson. She is a level-headed and attractive young woman. In the face of sudden fame and the camera, she has shown a sturdy good temper that would be praiseworthy in someone educated from birth to undertake a public role.

Upon their marriage, the young couple will be called upon to perform the secondary duties of royalty. Those duties can be exacting and always require qualities of endurance, patience, kindness and good humour. Strengthened by the partnership of a loving marriage, the Prince and his prospective bride are well-equipped to embark upon that royal treadmill.

We wish them every happiness.

FOR THE SAKE OF THE SIGNALS

Less visible than military hardware, less dramatic than nuclear weapons, the safeguarding of the intelligence gathered at the communications headquarters at Cheltenham has to be no less the Government's imperative. On Cheltenham's "sig-int" turns Britain's defence, and aspects of the defence of the West.

Today the Government has a problem in presenting a coherent position towards GCHQ. But the importance of securing the data that flows through it outranks administrative tidiness, even logic. It certainly is worth a mountain of political embarrassment. If, to maximize the effectiveness of GCHQ, ministers have to show themselves guilty of further maladroitness, hesitation or hypocrisy, it may be a price that has to be paid.

Evidence of most of those failings abounds. As recently as last Friday — two full years after the first deadline — dismissal was to be the official fate of staff who failed to give up their union membership. Now the sack is not considered appropriate. A haughty disregard of civil service union general secretaries has given way to (if Mr Alastair Graham is right) warm discussions.

The fact of union membership at GCHQ, the one thing the Government intended to end, remains. The installation's staff now divide into bewildering categories: people who refused to relinquish their membership and never accepted the proffered £1,000; those who did and have since recanted, but have kept the money; those who did, have recanted, and have repaid the money. Then there is the majority who, with evident unhappiness, abjured the Civil and Public Services Association and the First Division Association (a union whose members in the Cabinet

Office regularly and without challenge handle the results of GCHQ's data-gathering).

It is not a recipe for good management, nor for that *esprit de corps* which has in the past given British cryptographic operations a certain quality (and a protection against enemy penetration). The Government has, in short, made a mess and virtually anything that Sir Geoffrey Howe can now do to cleanse it, however inconsistent, is welcome.

The GCHQ affair has been a sequence of half-measures. The initial identification of problems appeared to confuse security in the wake of the Geoffrey Prime case with continuity in the flow of data, which was jeopardized in 1981 by civil service union action. Both had harmed GCHQ. They remained completely separate problems. For better or worse British cryptography had grown up under a different umbrella from the Armed Forces or the Security Services. The centre was civilian and unionized.

Yet after 1981 guarantees against disruption were vital. The soundest guarantee was the militarization of the installation (which given the diverse skills of GCHQ language experts cryptographers may never have been practical). Another option was offered among others by Mr Len Murray of the TUC: a promise by the civil service unions to exempt GCHQ from strikes.

The Government chose neither. It banned unions without altering the centre's civilian status. It is said that decision was taken against the advice of the centre's own managers and through them the head of the civil service, Sir Robert Armstrong. If so, the civil servants were right. It is now clear that a considerable price has been

paid for the method the government chose.

Another half measure: having stated its intention of removing unions, the Government has not followed through. Harsh though it was, the only remedy for recalcitrants was dismissal or transfer. Ditto the re-joiners.

There are inevitably great gaps in outsiders' understanding of the calculations made in this matter. We can only guess at the reasons. It might be the threat voiced by Mr Eric Hammond that members of the EPTU would take industrial action as part of a national day of action. This of course would be illegal secondary action. To bow to such a threat the Government would be suspending every promise made on the labour front over the past seven years.

Perhaps the government has been forced to listen this time to Sir Peter Marychurch, director of GCHQ. It could be that the centre's managers have spelled out an uncomfortable equation between the efficiency of their operations and the fate of the recalcitrant unionists. Perhaps Sir Peter has said that, contrary to ministerial expectations, the issue of union membership rangles still after two years.

Sir Geoffrey's best hope is that the attention of the wider trade union movement will be distracted by the removal of the dismissal threat, and that GCHQ becomes a more parochial issue. Evidently Mr Graham and the civil service union suit in the European Court will not go away. The law might even come to the Government's rescue. Concessions are justified up to the point of and for the sake of restoring to Cheltenham conditions of peace and high staff morale in which the quiet and permanent task of intelligence-gathering will again prosper.

THE WAY TO MORE JOBS

If there was any disposition among his own supporters to criticize the Chancellor of the Exchequer after his Budget speech it was on the grounds that he should have done more to act directly against unemployment. What precisely his critics wanted was less than clear. Some, defying experience with hope, still have vaguely in mind more government spending for more public sector work. Others, with greater relevance to the real problem, have felt that the government should act more positively on programmes to fit people for work, to encourage the creation of new private sector jobs by incentives of one sort or another, and to improve facilities for matching people with vacancies. The second is, of course, the right approach and if the government has had a poor press on unemployment it largely has itself to blame.

Too often it has presented its schemes in a half-hearted manner. Mr Lawson in his otherwise finely constructed Budget statement certainly did so, perhaps because the Budget is not actually the logical place for them.

Yesterday Lord Young, the Employment Secretary, went some way to restore confidence in the government's approach. By far the most promising part of the new employment package is the new so-called Restart programme which will radically

change the way in which Jobcentres deal with the long-term unemployed. Hitherto, the Jobcentres have simply been concerned with referring would-be employees to notified job vacancies. Their operation was run on the assumption that the most successful Jobcentre was the one which placed people in jobs most cheaply. There was virtually no counselling.

Last January, however, a pilot scheme was started in nine highly varied areas throughout the country. Its essence was counselling the long-term unemployed, and as the results so far have been distinctly promising, it is being applied to the country as a whole. It can be claimed that, on the basis of this experiment, had the scheme been operable nationwide in January the national long-term unemployment figure would have fallen by 1.1 per cent instead of rising by .1 per cent.

Some of the fall may, of course, be attributed to the departure from the register of those not seriously looking for work who might not relish such an interview.

The essential feature of the programme (for which 2,000 new Jobcentre recruits will be needed) will be letters to all long-term unemployed offering a specific appointment at a stated time to discuss what sort of work the person is looking for, their interests, their suitability for different

occupations and offers of training if appropriate.

This revolution in the role of Jobcentres has real potential and the principal wonder is why we have had to wait so long for it. Other particularly useful parts of the new jobs package, are the Jobstart allowance of £20 a week for six months to top up the income of those starting at less than £80 a week; the expansion of the present Enterprise Allowance Scheme, which provides £40 weekly payments to help the unemployed set up their own businesses, and especially the New Workers Scheme, which gives a £15 weekly allowance (for a year) to employers of 18 to 19 year olds earning up to £55 a week, or 20-year olds earning up to £65. This could help those who start work under the Youth Training Scheme to carry on permanent employment.

This new phase in the government's approach shows more positive thinking and it would be sensible for the government to present its new drive more energetically than hitherto. Unemployment now worries the nation more than any other current problem, and those who are worried are not simply those whom Mrs Thatcher regards as professional grumblers. Lord Young expects the long term unemployed and (reading between the lines) the unemployed as a whole to be fewer next year. That too is the nation's hope.

Compensating victims of crime

From Mr John Knight

Sir, Your article (March 5), "Help victims — and beat crime" by John Spencer, as well as drawing long overdue attention to the plight of victims of crime, has come just in time to alert those who care about justice to the worsening of the victim's position under the new Crown Prosecution Service. When this comes into force, the victim will become even more remote from those responsible for prosecutions.

At present, the victims can, if they are not suffering too severely from shock, contact their local police, and in some cases, gain access to the prosecuting solicitor. Under the new system, "it is not envisaged that the new service will have direct or personal contact with witnesses, and it will be under no duty to make contact with victims."

The Campaign Against Drinking and Driving is now in touch with 250 victim families each of whom has suffered a death at the hands of a drunken driver, and the overwhelming message received from these families is of absolute dissatisfaction with the processes of the law, and the manner in which the charges have been formulated and dealt with by those responsible.

In cases coming before magistrates they have been pre-judged, in secret, by the prosecuting solicitor, and the criminal has escaped justice for a crime very akin to manslaughter. Where cases have gone to the crown court, a charge of manslaughter is often well justified, but is reduced to one of causing death by reckless driving, and is nearly always disposed of by a trivial sentence, in spite of Lord Lane's guidelines of two years' custody as a minimum in serious cases.

If victims are going to continue to be abused in this way by the legal system, it will inevitably become preferable for them to take the law into their own hands, and become criminals themselves. In this way, they will be eligible for all the privileges now being given to the criminal, and they will have the satisfaction of knowing that rough justice has been done if civilised justice is denied them. JOHN KNIGHT, Meadside, Shudy Camps, Cambridge, March 11.

Queries for Reagan

From Mr Graham Greene

OM, CH Sir, Isn't it about time that a very big question mark was aimed at President Reagan?

"Why do you persist in calling the Nicaraguan Government a communist government? Wouldn't it be equally true, or equally false, to call it a Roman Catholic government? I can understand and even sympathise with the objections you might have to a Catholic government, but, of course, the support you give the terrorists would be less excusable in the eyes of your countrymen."

How can the Nicaraguan Government be classified simply as communist? The key positions of foreign affairs, health and education and culture are all held by Catholic priests. The official in charge of economic research is a priest. An English priest is organising rural libraries in the countryside.

It is true that the Archbishop is opposed to the present Government but the Church does not belong to the Archbishop, it belongs to the Catholic people, and I watched last December how the population celebrated with a faith and a fervour which I wish I could have fully shared the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

There are Marxists in the Government, yes, but Marxism is an economic theory not a heresy. President Ortega has visited Moscow, yes, and Mrs Thatcher, we are told, also hopes to visit Moscow. Yours truly, GRAHAM GREENE, London, France, March 11.

Bilingual education

From Mrs J. M. Goldsmith

Sir, With reference to the report from your Education Correspondent in today's paper (March 11) resistance to bilingual education in this country is not, as Professor Biku Parekh asserts, "grounded in linguistic parochialism". Job applications in this country are written in English; children are tested and obtain qualifications in English; internationally the language of science, mathematics, insurance, banking and commerce, is English.

Primary education in this country enables a child to acquire the vocabulary necessary for the study of textbooks, and the preparation for exams, in secondary education. By advocating that children be taught "in their mother tongues for the first two years" Professor Parekh is in fact denying children from ethnic minorities the opportunity to study on equal terms with their peers in secondary school whose mother tongue is English.

Of far more practical help to them, in the long term, would be to offer them more English lessons, not fewer, with English as a second language predominating. Yours faithfully, JOAN M. GOLDSMITH, 24 Windmill Close, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

'Chaotic' introduction of GCSE

From the President of the Secondary Heads Association

Sir, This week a delegation of officers of the Secondary Heads Association, representing the majority of the nation's secondary schools' management, went to the Department of Education and Science to urge the Minister, Mr Chris Patten, to postpone the introduction of GCSE for one year.

We went with no political axe to grind; our concern is the total unpreparedness of the education service for what should be the most invigorating and important change in approach, syllabus content and manner of assessment in secondary schools this century.

The Minister gave the rebuff that he reiterated in his speech at Chester on March 11. When a Minister goes against the considered advice of the heads of schools, the very people on whom he is relying to implement the desired changes, the nation should be made aware of this astonishing situation.

GCSE will go ahead as planned, runs your report (March 12). If the chaotic shambles that we see building up for this autumn is planned, then heaven preserve us from the unplanned syllabuses unavailable until too late, option choices for third-year pupils undecided, the consequent inability of schools to make timetables or

order the necessary books and teaching materials, training courses 50 per cent unattended — the picture is alarming.

The one crumb of comfort has been the news that more finance will be available to resource the change. So far enough finance to supply each pupil with a couple of modestly priced books has been provided. £100 million is the need, or £30,000 per average school — the cost of one A-ward minor plane. If this can be provided, something may yet be pulled from the wreckage.

Yours faithfully, ROWLAND P. BROWN, President, Secondary Heads Association, 107 St Paul's Road, NI, March 19.

Guessing game

From Dr Julian Verbov

Sir, Mr Pettifor (March 13) is mistaken. Multiple choice examination is not new-fangled but a proven and well-recognised test of knowledge. A candidate who relies on guesswork will fail a well set and intelligently marked paper.

The only pin I know mightier than the pen is a cask of 4½ gallons. Yours faithfully, JULIAN VERBOV, 38 Montclair Drive, Liverpool.

Moves to Rome

From the Reverend Paul McPartlan

Sir, One of the signs of our ecumenical times, a remarkable and momentous sign, is the convergence towards recognising the Eucharist as the "heart" of the Church. The following is a statement of no less representative a body than the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches in its Lima Report of 1982:

As the Eucharist celebrates the resurrection of Christ, it is appropriate that it should take place at least every Sunday. As it is the new sacramental meal of the people of God, every Christian should be encouraged to receive communion frequently (Eucharist, n.30).

In particular, there are now prominent Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican theologians who agree that a central part of our shared heritage is the belief that the Eucharist is not just "one of the things the Church does" but rather is the celebration *par excellence* of our Christian identity, of our life in Christ.

Those who teach and exercise authority in the Christian community, primarily the bishops, do so essentially to gather people in truth for this celebration and to ensure that its effect on the participants and its witness to the world are not marred by division.

For this celebration is unique, because Christ is unique. He is the incarnate Word of God, through whom everything was made and in whom alone all humanity and indeed all creation is reconciled and all worldly divisions transcended. Every Eucharist celebrates and proclaims this fact and

further the unity of all in Christ, the very unity for which we were made.

That is why, in the early Church there was only one Eucharist, presided over by the bishop, in a given town on a given feast. Can we permit ourselves to envisage a reunited Church in which, on Sundays, Christians would gather according to their former labels to celebrate the Eucharist?

Do not the profound reasons why, as Father Edward Yarnold notes (article, March 8), "some ecumenists wish 'one church in one place'" deserve more consideration? He prefers to envisage "a unity of 'sister churches', 'united but not absorbed'". Ought we not all to pray and work for absorption into a Church in which the true sisters will be the local churches which gather for the Eucharist around brother bishops (or their presbyterial representatives), one in each place.

Yours faithfully, PAUL MCPARTLAN, Campion Hall, Oxford.

Tea at the vicarage

From Mr Jeffrey Archer

Sir, Tea parties at the rectory of the Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight (March 14) may sadly be an occasion for violence but, Sir, the sly shades of our spectral curates, vicars and rural deans still dance down our lawn, nor was our house "pulled down many years ago". I am, Sir, your obedient servant, JEFFREY ARCHER, The Old Vicarage, Gramchester, Cambridge, March 17.

Paying for gas

From Mr J. Chahidi

Sir, Like Mr Jones (March 6) I would like to know how the gas board justifies charging us — and presumably millions of other consumers — at least £50 more on our quarterly account than we have ever been charged in the winter months, based on its new practice of only reading meters every six months. This represents an interest-free loan of enviable magnitude.

Yours faithfully, J. CHAHIDI, 22 Lonsdale Road, Oxford.

Sellafield safety

From the Reverend Stephen Trott

Sir, The select committee has articulated the growing public concern about Sellafield, as the scale of its pollution of the Irish Sea has become known, and the

Dutch courage

From Mr Anthony R. Fuell

Sir, In today's edition (March 5) I was pleased to note an advertisement placed by the Dutch Government inviting citizens of The Netherlands resident in Britain who wish to vote in their country's forthcoming elections to register with their embassy.

How long will it be before the British Government places similar advertisements in the Belgian Press? I find it completely inexplicable that Britons resident abroad — even in member states of

necessity for its operations called into question. British Nuclear Fuels has made claims for the plant's safety which it now seems cannot be regarded as reliable in the absence of hard evidence as to the long-term effects of radioactive pollution of the environment.

For the sake of those who live in the area affected by Sellafield/Windscale, already dimly at the apparent link with increased leukaemia statistics, the repressing must be stopped. Until there is satisfactory scientific evidence about the potential dangers, there can be no moral justification for continuing the risks.

Yours faithfully, STEPHEN TROTT, 14 Southgate, Hesse, Hull, Humberside.

the EEC — should be denied the opportunity to participate in the political process of their home country; and having been effectively disenfranchised for the last four years, I hope that the Government will make good its promise to rectify this situation in time for the thousands of British expatriates to vote in the next general election.

Yours faithfully, ANTHONY R. FUELL, Rue d'Angoussart 18, B-1301 Bierges, Belgium, March 5.

Satanic drills

From Mr P. A. Faulkner and others

Sir, Few would doubt that Corfe Castle, the village and surrounding landscape, form a unique part of our national heritage. Some 200,000 visitors per year are attracted to the castle alone and approximately 500,000 to the village. This small living village, with a population of under 2,000, is already in danger of becoming strangled as it lies in the centre of an area increasingly dominated by oil interests.

Currently the building of a by-pass (for which the local authority has received little or no financial encouragement) and the replanning of the environs of the castle are both being considered. Both issues pose a threat to the very entity they seek to preserve. This is a key issue, both locally and nationally, and one that we think, calls for the care and imagination that produced reports

on Bath and York and the Roman Wall. These reports studied all aspects of conservation and were in themselves a landmark.

May we suggest that the National Trust pauses in its redevelopment of Corfe village while a similar independent study is commissioned by an appropriate body with a remit to reconcile the rival claims of traffic management, visitor management and environmental conservation, at the same time preserving a living community within the context of a site of, perhaps, more than local or even national significance.

Yours faithfully, PATRICK A. FAULKNER, BERNARD FELDEN, MICHAEL MIDDLETON, J. M. RICHARDS, Farrier's, Kingston, Corfe Castle, Dorset, March 13.

ON THIS DAY

MARCH 20 1912

In February, 1911 an Air Battalion of the Royal Engineers was formed. Later that year the Committee of Imperial Defence led by Lord Haldane, Secretary for War, succeeded in June 1912 by J.B. Serry, later Lord Mottistone, recommended that the country should have a unified Flying Service. In fact two services came into operation in 1912 — the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service, the former based at Farnborough and Netheravon and the latter at Eastchurch. Our Aeronautical Correspondent was Hubert Walter.

BRITISH AVIATION. THE NEW FLYING CORPS. (BY OUR AERONAUTICAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The announcements made in Parliament by Colonel Seely and Mr. Churchill on the subject of the new flying organization which is to take the place of the existing Air Battalion deserve a more attention than they are likely to receive from a public whose mind is overshadowed by the coal strike... A NATIONAL AIR SERVICE. Its chief and most obvious merit is that it treats flying as a thing in itself, and not a mere function of any existing arm. Flying is flying, whether it be done by a soldier, a sailor, or a man of civilian, and the concentration under one administration of the training of all persons who are qualified and prepared to serve the country in time of war in any part of the world should ensure the attainment of the highest standard alike of theoretical professional knowledge and of practical performance in the air. Details of pay and pensions appear to be not yet fixed, but it is to be assumed that they will be on a special scale and sufficient to induce an adequate supply of officers to volunteer for the corps. With the abolition of the Air Battalion, a transitional makeshift of the unimaginative British type, the way is clear for the formation of a National Air Service to belong to which a man may well be proud. However meritorious may have been the personnel of the Air Battalion, part of the Government are to be congratulated on their recognition that an organization of that kind is altogether inadequate to the aerial requirements of the country.

THE CENTRAL SCHOOL.

Colonel Seely cleared up the meaning of a loose expression in Lord Haldane's Memorandum, which was published on February 28. The latter stated that the new joint Army and Navy School of Aviation officers of both services "shall be taught to fly before proceeding to the separate Army and Navy establishments at which they will be exercised in the more specialized requirements of their respective services." But Colonel Seely in his speech made it quite clear that it is not proposed to use the central school for teaching officers to fly. "They would learn the elements of flying in the Army and to the flying school for the more advanced course." He explained later that it had been settled that officers should learn to fly at private flying schools; first, because it was desirable to encourage private effort, and, secondly, because it was thought that there was less risk of accident in the initial stages if this method was adopted. It appears, then, that all officers and civilians who present themselves for the school for their four months' course will already be certificated aviators.

The training of non-commissioned officers and men as well as officers is contemplated — and enlightened and very important innovation — and it seems probable that these may actually be taught to fly at the school. But otherwise the art of flying, pure and simple, will not be taught at the central school any more than company drill is taught at the Staff College. What will be taught at the central school will be the things which make the difference between the mere airman and the military aviator. Much more than the ability to fly is needed before a man can be counted as a useful asset to a military or naval commander. It is the scientific, as opposed to the acrobatic, side of the business which has to be developed — "progressive" flying, observation and photography from the air, meteorology, flying by compass, signalling, and the like, as well as mechanics and the principles of construction — and in this the school will supply a training which will be invaluable when, after the course, the aviator joins the military or naval wing of the Service at Nether-Avon or Eastchurch.

REASONS FOR SLOW DEVELOPMENT.

It is not clear from the published figures how much money is to be spent this year on actual aeroplanes. Colonel Seely stated that the purchase of 71 had been sanctioned out of the £21 required to complete the scheme. When as many as 71 suitable machines will be procurable this year seems doubtful. The obstacle is not expense. Both Colonel Seely and Mr. Churchill declared that the Government were determined that money should not stand in the way of any necessary step. It is the far greater difficulty of getting delivery of machines in which men can have confidence and which are really suitable for military purposes.

Top chunks

From Dr M. P. Stewardson Sir, Perhaps Mrs Keenan (front page, March 13) could re-label her marmalade "Redbrick"? Although that might not go down too well in Harrods and Fortnum and Mason. Yours sincerely, MICHAEL STEWARDSON, Oddy's Piece, 2 Chapel Road, Pawlett, Bridgwater, Somerset.

THE ARTS

Television
Unlucky families

Divorce exists as an institution not because we are notably more fickle and inconstant than our forebears but because we live so much longer, deprived of early widowhood, the modern husband resorts to serial polygamy.

Out of Court (BBC2) introduced its studio discussion of the subject with filmed reports of two victims: a woman who found herself having to pay her own costs when attempting to enforce a maintenance order; and a man whose former wife has successfully denied him his rights of access to their children — now, with heavy paths, he is reduced to keeping in touch by dedicating sentimental records to them on local radio.

In order to rationalize the provisions of divorce judgments, the Lord Chancellor's office has prepared a working paper which recommends setting up family courts along the lines of the Australian model, where informal hearings seek to dispel the traditional notion of apportioning blame. Immensely popular when first introduced on the back of a new law which provided a single requirement for divorce (12 months' separation), the system there has brought about an alarming backlash in that several family-court judges have been attacked with bombs, presumably by aggrieved former customers who ended by resenting the very liberalization which was designed to help them.

Perhaps the heart of the problem is the modern, romantic idea of married love; we tend to regard happiness as a birthright rather than something that requires application and a measure of good luck. The low-life characters of Channel 4's late-night Brazilian curiosity *The Double Death of Quincas Berro d'Água* had their own recipe: a bottle of hooch and a complainant whore.

In this sometimes heavy-handed black comedy, the degraded civil servant of the title managed to outdo W.C. Fields in actually dying after drinking a glass of water, and then favoured the rest of the proceedings with a beatific smile as his paroled corpse was borne through the streets of Bahia, on a last night out, before returning to his unnatural element by falling into the heaving sea. At times the play resembled an alternative travelogue for the seedy side of Brazilian life, with character and development not getting much of a look in. But the Portuguese for "shrews" sounds absolutely splendid.

Martin Cropper

Theatre

Passionate trial of life's realities

Made in Bangkok
Aldwych

The Bangkok of Anthony Minghella's title combines simultaneously a place on the map and a place in the mind. It is the latest manifestation of the faraway country where British dramatists have traditionally let loose their ugliest fantasies, the difference being that, instead of exhibiting a supposed pack of filthy foreigners (as with the Jacobean), Mr Minghella is out to pin the blame where it belongs. If Bangkok is a city where any forbidden dream can come true and where sweatshops flourish with undiminished Victorian vigour, it is because the West has debauched its people into that condition.

The play follows a group of five English tourists on a stopover in Bangkok en route to Hong Kong. We meet them hanging around an airport carousel, and revealing themselves through the frayed nerves of a punishing flight and a baggage-claim hold-up.

There are a loud-mouthed fashion salesman and his gentlemanly boss; a distracted electronics executive and his composed wife; and Edward, a Lancashire dentist working in Hong Kong refugee camps, who is keen to show off his respect for the Thai people and contempt for his insular fellow passengers. As things stand at the end of the scene, the party breaks down into those who take a cultivated interest in an exotic spot, those who want human contact with its inhabitants

and those whose tongues are hanging out for the Thai fleshpots.

The plot Mr Minghella goes on to develop could just as easily have been reworked as farce. With the aid of one identical bedroom (an exercise in the Hilton Far Eastern manner by John Gunter) each of the three groups set about satisfying their own clandestine requirements, with mutually compromising meetings down in the lobby with the aid of obsequiously clanger-dropping hotel staff and an unreliable lift (always a sure-fire comic property). In fact there are virtually no laughs in the piece, and its atmosphere is set by the blown-up photographs of massage-parlour advertisements and the ominous drum intrude in Michael Blakemore's production.

What the action does accomplish is largely to demolish the preconceptions of the opening scene, so as to show that those who frankly admit their appetites are pretty harmless, while those who conceal fantasies under cover of indifference or moral superiority are the real bringers of pain and danger. It would have been better for them and for society, the play implies, if such places as Bangkok did not exist. "Where does it belong, a fantasy?" the wife demands, "because out here in the open it's terrible. And it's terrible bottled up."

That sounds as though Mr Minghella were writing even-handedly, but the overwhelming impression of *Made in Bangkok* is of a high moral didacticism which extends to extremely manipulative



Pharisee who finally submits to passion: Peter McKenty's memorable performance, with Felicity Kendal

characterization. The treatment of Gary, the salesman, as a coarse phallus-obsessed lout, incapable of seeing a model taking her dress off without springing to his feet, is so chained to stereotype and pushed to such unspeakable lengths by Christopher Fulford that it is hard to see how the rest of the company go through the motions of tolerating him. This, as it turns out, is Mr Minghella's way of exposing the real ghoul — Stephen, the bashful executive, who takes a night off from the wife to visit the massage parlour, and then engages a pair of bedroom girls whom he leaves tied up when

the fire-alarm sounds. In him we witness the birth of a sadist. In Edward we witness a parallel and sadder case of the birth of homosexual love when, after establishing a firm friendship with a Thai pimp, he then ruins it by offering him money for an hour in bed.

Peter McKenty's performance in this role is the most memorable part of the show: a bony, sexless, gauche Pharisee finally submitting to the passions he has up to this moment escaped. Felicity Kendal and Paul Shelley as the married pair communicate the sense of furtive non-communication and temporary

release that still leaves the nature of their past marriage unexamined; they are not helped by Mr Minghella's discovery that, under emotional stress, the speaker's syntax is apt to break up — a trick which he then works to excess.

The production itself is a model of the small significant moments in which this director excels; and, failing the return of Peter Nichols, the play offers a thoughtful, morally impassioned examination of how we live now, of a kind too seldom seen recently in London.

Irving Wardle

Dance

Entertaining eccentricities

One Train Can Hide Another
Northcott, Exeter

The Dance Theatre of Rennes in Brittany, directed by Gigi Caciuleanu, has an eccentric, amiable, entertaining character all its own. This week it is back at the Northcott Theatre, Exeter, where it made its British debut three years ago, this time with a single long work called *One Train Can Hide Another*.

A programme note explains the title with the analogy of leaning on a level-crossing gate to contemplate the trains of life. What Caciuleanu is after, as I understand it, is to use the diversity of his own or anyone else's cultural experience as the pretext for putting together many contrasted elements and looking for some

pattern within them. So the musical basis of the piece is a collage ranging from medieval songs to a comic blues, from Rossini's Tigris to the sounds made by whales, from spoken words to flamenco.

The movement is equally diverse. One moment the whole cast is miming to Charles Ives's song about "Waiting for the op'ry", the next minute they are crudely masked like *commedia dell'arte* characters in an enigmatic drama. Sometimes the contrast comes within a single dance, as when Claudine Orvain first instructs her partner, with much lewd innuendo, in what looks a comically awkward bit of partnering until, repeated smoothly to part of that choreographically ubiquitous Albinoni Adagio, it is transformed into romantic innocence.

There is much comedy in

the piece, but there are also moments of quiet, lonely stillness. The climax is purely choreographic, a marvelously gentle, fluent solo for Ruxandra Racovitz to a Chopin Barcarolle, imaginatively responsive to the music's shifts of mood and pattern, using her exceptionally precise skills with casual grace.

Caciuleanu's own easy virtuosity and humour find expression in several solos, and he puts the personalities as well as the skills of all his dancers on display. It occurs to me in retrospect that, in his entirely different way, Caciuleanu comes nearer to Pina Bausch's aim of presenting dancers primarily as people than any of her would-be imitators. Yet while watching his work one sees it only as something entirely individual.

John Percival

LPO/Tennstedt
Festival Hall

Klaus Tennstedt came back to London in triumph on Tuesday. Mahler's savagely pessimistic Sixth Symphony is not the obvious choice to celebrate a conductor's return to good health — quite the opposite, given its compositional circumstances. But a performance in this heroic mould could only have a therapeutic effect on those who played it and those lucky enough to listen. The London Philharmonic has welcomed back its principal conductor in magnificent fashion.

There was not an ounce of indulgence anywhere. In the first movement Tennstedt maintained an almost brutal momentum from those first thundering bass notes onwards. Mahler's contrapuntal textures were crystallized; even the expansive second subject (usually a signal for relaxation) was kept taut and lean,

fect nourishment for his innovations; now Surman, on whose philosophy Coltrane made an early and indelible imprint, clearly relished the chance to feast from the source.

As with so much jazz in the post-Coltrane style, there were passages in which nothing much happened except the expression of physical energy and the exercising of extended techniques (the latter being something at which Mangelsdorff, who has a repertoire of extraordinary timbral distortions and seemingly impossible multiphonics, is notably adept), but an out-of-tempo piece by Holland distilled a rare pensive beauty, and a surprising, medium-tempo version of Ellington's "Prelude to a Kiss" drew from Surman's baritone saxophone a wonderful solo full of lively ideas and paced with a relaxed authority.

Luckily, the Radio 3 microphones were on hand to capture a true musical summit-meeting; it is doubtful that they could have done much with the stars of the festival's opening night, the riotous Loose Tubes, whose performance was even more kaleidoscopically dazzling than usual, encompassing hymns, reeds, bebop mutations, electro-pop, mariachi brass and the sort of jazz-funk invented to provide a soundtrack for theme pubs.

Richard Williams

Concert

with the fiddles tucking in their profiles grace-notes immaculately. So all-embracing was the funeral atmosphere that when the cow-bells signalled the sighting of that haunted landscape — of shadow half-themes in the woodwind and unnaturally sweet string tremolando — it was as if waking from a nightmare to find a worse reality.

Tennstedt opted to play the scherzo next, and with good reason. The dark mood persisted; snarling brass passages gradually overwhelmed the trio's ritual ironies. Here there were some stunning pieces of

Richard Morrison

Music-theatre

Phantastes/
Other Voices
The Place

It was really a choice of having your psychology Jung or Freud. Paul Barker's *Phantastes* was an adaptation of the fantasy novels by George MacDonald to make a dream-play out of Maeterlinck or Strindberg, with a young man lost in a forest where he encounters figures with names like *The White Lady*, *The Shadow* and *The Maiden of the Spheres*. Richard Hawkins' *Other Voices* was a setting of poems from Rilke's *Das Buch der Bilder* to make a sequence of scrying monologues of alienation.

Quite why the mere mention of music-theatre should produce these great washes of *Anger* is an interesting point. Obviously it has something to do with the long shadows thrown by *Pierrot Lunaire* and *The Soldier's Tale*, the latter an evident influence on Hawkins. But perhaps more deeply it is the dislocation of the medium, its estrangement from the conventional worlds of opera, chamber music or straight play, that is bound to produce a dislocated expression.

Paul Griffiths

A harassed committee meeting today serves to highlight some of the problems of the GLC and its abolition, as Nicholas Shakespeare reports

Minute stakes

This is a tale of chaos, confusion and haste. It is caused by the abolition of the GLC and it concerns the funding of voluntary arts organizations in London — in particular a much-needed sum of £2 million. According to repeated ministerial assurances, worthwhile voluntary projects will not be harmed as a result of abolition. A variety of schemes have been set up to administer replacement funding. It is the largest of these, the London Boroughs Grant Scheme — known as the Richmond Scheme — which concerns us here.

Just to sketch out its history is to enter a plot, scripted by Kafka, interpreted by Bugsy and rewritten by Jeffrey Archer. The refusal of Labour boroughs to take part at all set the scene early on; it was not until mid-October that the 33 members of the committee, one from each borough (comprising 19 Tories, 13 Labour and one Liberal), met for the first time. In November they met again to consider the budget. The Tories opted for a sum of £20 million, Labour £35 million and the Tory member for Sutton, Councillor Edward Trevor, for a sum of £2 million.

The first agreed figure was £24.64 million for London-wide voluntary organizations previously funded by the GLC, of which arts organizations formed a quarter. The figure was passed by 16 votes to 15. The figure turned out to be a non-starter anyway because two-thirds of the boroughs needed to ratify it.

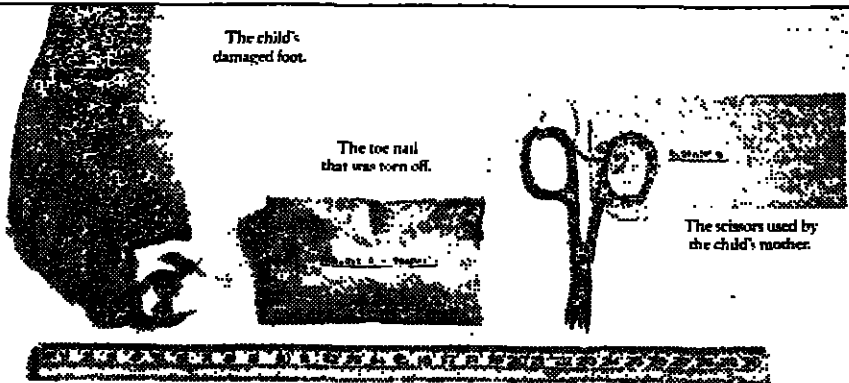
At a specially convened meeting on January 13 a new figure of £27 million was proposed — despite a recommendation from Gerald Oppenheim, director of the Grants Unit, of £28.24 as a bare minimum. Not until January 30, when the budget was finally agreed, could the committee consider a single suggestion.

John Christmas, Oppenheim had set in solitary splendour sifting through applications from 1,100 organizations. Of these, 700 were previously funded by the GLC. Aided by two seconded clerical employees, he calculated that, were each currently funded project to be considered by the end of the financial year, the committee would have one minute per application. By the deadline of April 1 the committee will have only decided on some 180 of the 700 previously funded. A new candidate has no hope at all of being considered by then.

With about £2 million for the arts, the Richmond Scheme will not be administering the lion's share of arts funding in London. Nevertheless it cannot even consider its applications until the Arts Council, hand in moist hand with the Greater London Arts Association, have negotiated through by borough. This has meant that at today's committee meeting Oppenheim will be empowered to give out three months of contingency funding to those currently funded who have not heard about their application by April 1. He promises to be sending out a lot of letters.

Unable to cope with what already existed, the Richmond Scheme has not even looked at new initiatives. Far from maintaining the dynamism of the voluntary sector, it might be symptomatic of what is stifling it.

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Jazz
Camden Jazz Week
Shaw Theatre

Completely avoiding the leaden routines beloved of both artists and show-offs, a drum solo by Elvin Jones involves such a perfect reconciliation of the intellectual and the physical that comparisons are more likely with dancers or athletes than with other musicians. His style, which became widely influential during his time with the remarkable John Coltrane Quartet of the early 1960s, marries the most sophisticated extensions of Afro-American rhythmic theory to the speed, power and grace of a great half-miler or a champion middleweight.

On Tuesday, during the second night of what promises to be, even by its own high standards, an unusually substantial Camden Jazz Week, we heard him in the stimulating context of an all-star ensemble completed by two Englishmen, the double bassist Dave Holland and the saxophonist John Surman, and a German, the trombonist Albert Mangelsdorff. This turned out to be the kind of matchmaking that allows the partners to be themselves while provoking fresh inspiration, and Jones in particular was encouraged to a marvellous display.

His drumming achieves its wholly original effect through the tension between behind-the-beat time-keeping on the ride cymbal, lagging triplets on the snare-drum and anticipatory explosions on the first beat of the bar. Instead of the conventional linear flow of a swinging pulse, he creates a static field of kinetic energy from which others can draw. Coltrane found there the per-

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

March 20, 1986

Britain is in danger of falling from the second league of industrialized nations to the third. What has gone so drastically wrong with the country that started the Industrial Revolution and that only 40 years ago was second to the United States in gross national product per head?

We are famous for our inventors but infamous for not exploiting the market potential of our own inventions. Talented young people still take their ideas to the United States, Canada and Europe because no one here will invest in their products.

Politicians and pundits talk glibly about Japanese commitment, American marketing and German work values but little attempt is made to emulate the conditions or attitudes which create success in those countries.

More threatening still is that there now seems to be a debate about whether the country should concentrate on manufacturing or services — as if the UK could survive with one or the other but cannot afford both and as if the two are mutually exclusive. With 25.8 per cent of the working population employed in manufacturing and 65.3 per cent in

services, the demise of either would be a catastrophe.

Seven years ago those figures were closer — 32.1 per cent for manufacturing, 57.8 per cent for services. Why is our manufacturing base, supposedly leaner and fitter from the recession, still diminishing while other countries surge ahead?

It is not the technology. Companies can buy the machines and the processes. One of the main differences is in the people — their abilities in using the machines, producing quality products that the customer wants, then selling them. Slowly the idea is becoming accepted that the resources which matter most are human resources.

With technologies and markets changing so quickly, companies need to recruit and develop young people who can adapt at the same pace, boys and girls who are used to learning rather than those who think that education stops when work begins. Education needs to go on throughout people's working lives: training to up-date techniques, functional training to understand colleagues' work and problems, and management training to develop leadership and team working.

The Government has made a

With technologies changing so fast, we need young people who can adapt and will go on learning, says Bill Friggens



start. The Youth Training Scheme has been extended from one year to two, with the aim of giving more vocational training that will lead to recognized qualifications. The technical and vocational education initiative is another hopeful sign. This is aimed at developing technical and vocational education inside secondary schools.

The Manpower Services Commission's adult training strategy is also a step in the right direction. It is based on the old Training Opportunities Scheme course, and the MSC is campaigning to make more people aware of the need for adult training as well as doing some of it itself.

It is not enough. The MSC spends £250 million a year on adult training as opposed to £1 billion on youth.

There is not enough liaison between the Government, the universities, polytechnics and course runners who decide on course content and numbers to be taken on in each discipline, and companies which fight over or reject the end product.

Japan and West Germany have better liaison arrangements. Government, industry and educational establishments plan and negotiate according to industry's needs and within financial con-

straints imposed by central or regional government.

In the United States, if industry suddenly has a need for a new high-technology skill, half a dozen courses will come into being overnight to offer training, and potential employees will borrow the money to pay for it.

In Britain, a remuneration economics salary survey of engineering functions showed recently that the proportion of companies having difficulty in recruiting engineers had grown from 37 per cent in 1981 to 61 per cent in 1985.

Yet the number of apprentices taken on every year fails to grow and predictions of skill shortages get worse. Sir Keith Joseph cited this evidence in this column; high-performing businesses have increased their training by 25 per cent during the past five years while low performers have reduced theirs by 20 per cent. It has a spiralling effect: training works.

Many individual engineering firms know this already. One example from my industry is STELRAD, one of Britain's leading manufacturers of domestic and industrial boilers, which has increased production during the past four years by 20 per cent and saved about 37 per cent of its pay bill, mainly through a new training

programme for managers, shop-floor workers and sales representatives.

Training and retraining people again and again throughout their working lives is not a luxury to be indulged in when times are good and managers have time to spare from running the company.

Many organizations, the Engineering Industry Training Board, will be promoting the need for action on developing human resources.

On March 23-24 we are running a conference showing the importance of developing talent for successful competition called The Winning Margin. The conference will provide a forum for discussion and is aimed at chief executives and senior managers.

Topics will include the relationship between people, performance and productivity, and between government and manufacturing industry to ensure its future contribution to UK wealth creation, and the trade union commitment to competence in British industry.

The conference is just a first step. It will be videotaped, and edited versions will be used at Industry Year seminars.

Engineering creates wealth and is still the largest sector of industry in Britain today. And the vast majority of the rest of UK industry is dependent on successful engineering activity.

Yet manufacturing has a low status here compared with the professions and compared with certain European countries which value the people who create wealth. We need to encourage the best of our school-leavers and graduates to compete for manufacturing jobs, particularly as demographic changes mean there will soon be fewer of them. Having caught them, we need to keep them by encouraging self-development and advancement.

The only way we can hope to catch our competitors is to use the best resources we have. And once we have caught up, if we can, will "they", our competitors, have moved on again? If we go on talking instead of acting, we shall fall further behind. In the 1990s only the learning company will succeed.

Bill Friggens is the director of the Engineering Training Board

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Travenol is a successful £7m-10m international company devoted to the design, development, manufacture and distribution of a range of life-saving medical care products. A Production Superintendent is sought for the 2-10pm shift. Responsible, through Production Supervisors, for controlling a large fast growing team of production operatives within a high-tech clean-room environment to tight manufacturing targets, you will need a sound management/supervision background ideally in the food, pharmaceutical or brewing production environment. Aged 24-35, you should have a degree or equivalent in a scientific discipline and be seeking your next career move. The company offer good career prospects and wide ranging benefits including relocation assistance. Salary will not be a limiting factor in appointing the right person. Phone: Diana Campbell, PER, Norwich, on (0603) 617426, for an application form.



Assistant General Manager

£12,000-£15,000 + car North Cants

Huntingdon based adhesive tape company, are looking to strengthen their management team with creation of this new position. Initial responsibility will include finance, product management and office systems development. However it is anticipated that the post will quickly develop into a key management role. Candidates aged 25-32 educated to at least 'A' level standard, should have financial and sales and marketing experience in a commercial environment. Essential qualities sought include: drive and determination, and a strong desire for success. Excellent career prospects. Please write with full cv to: Mr K Mellor, Limpet Tapes Limited, Bond House, 9A George Street, Huntingdon, Cambs PE18 6BD.

Systems Analyst/Programmer

£10,500-£13,000 + benefits Suffolk

Recently transferred to private ownership we are a respected and successful company in shipping and engineering. Applicants ideally degree or HNC with experience in mechanical engineering and knowledge of analysis/programming using TME and Range COBOL on ICL ME 9 equipment. TPE an advantage. Supervising staff and giving technical advice and guidance to management is essential. Send cv to: Anne Daniels, Personnel Assistant, Brooke Marine Limited, Heath Road, Lowestoft, Suffolk NR33 9LZ.



Graduate

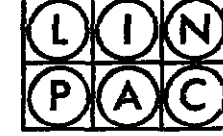
£12,500 Corby

Avon Cosmetics, one of the world's leading cosmetics companies, are looking for a highly motivated graduate with accounting experience to be responsible for the day to day control of their credit administration and marketing co-ordination department. Responsibilities of the department are diverse with considerable involvement in the operational aspects of our business. Consequently, at least three years' experience within a fast moving, highly computerised environment is essential, together with excellent communication and interpersonal skills. You will be expected to achieve demanding, yet realistic goals within an agreed budget and contribute effectively to the future of our business. The salary will depend on the level of experience and will not be an obstacle to the candidate who matches our requirements. A comprehensive benefits package including non-contributory pension scheme, health insurance, and free life insurance is offered. Relocation assistance will be available. If this is the career move you are looking for: Please send a comprehensive cv to: Mr C Young, Personnel Officer, Avon Cosmetics Ltd, Earlstrees Road, Corby, Northants NN17 2AT.

Sales Representative

Corrugated Packaging South East

Our company is part of a large international packaging group which continues to expand successfully despite the recession. We are now seeking an experienced Sales Representative for a territory in Greater London and adjoining counties North of the Thames. Applicants should be able to demonstrate the ability to succeed in a highly competitive market, preferably in the packaging or allied industries, and be seeking opportunity for advancement on merit with a profitable group which sees commitment and determination as key factors in achieving high performance. Salary will reflect both the importance of the position and the calibre of the individual, other benefits include a company car and pension scheme. Send cv to: Mr P Wilkinson, Lin Pac Corrugated Cases, Richmer Road, Erith, Kent DA8 2HN.



Technical Manager

Wiltshire

To recruit and lead a small team of professionals providing technical support to our microcomputer franchised stores. The position also involves product evaluation and assessment of market trends. The successful candidate will be fully conversant with the integration of micro/super micro systems and office communications and have a detailed knowledge of LAN/Multi User technology. Send full cv to: Pauline Morgan, PER, 62-64 High Street, Southampton SO9 2EG.

JOB HUNTERS

For a free job hunting information pack and weekly details on the recruitment market at places including over 450 new jobs phone 0204 6111200 or write to PER (EP) Recruitment House, 2-4 Fitz-Robert Gate, Sheffield S1 4HL. For all positions in this category apply, cover cv to and from both sides and receive.

Sales Opportunities

Sika Ltd are proud of their excellent reputation as formulators and manufacturers of a wide range of products for the construction industry. To maintain our position, and increase our market share we wish to appoint the following candidates who should be self-motivated, professional sales persons with a proven track record.

Technical Sales Representative

Neg salary + car Oxon/Bucks/Beds/Herts
The successful applicant for this position will cover the above area, and a knowledge of scalants, epoxy products, polymer mortars or concrete admixtures is desirable. Please write to Ken Lea, Sales Manager, at the address below.

Technical Sales Representative

Joint Sealant Division
Competitive salary + car Home Counties

For the development of sales of polyurethane and joint sealants we wish to appoint a professional sales person to cover Surrey, Kent, Hampshire and Berkshire. A knowledge of joint sealants desirable. Please write with cv to Ted Crossdale, Sales Manager (Joint Sealants Division) at the address below.

Candidates applying for the above positions should have at least three years sales experience in the construction industry, coupled with the ability to communicate with specifiers, contractors, on-site buyers and engineers. Successful applicants, aged 25-45, will receive an attractive salary, company car and other company benefits. Sika Limited, Watchmead, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 1BQ.



Sales Manager

£12,000+ comm + car England & Wales

My client is a leading manufacturer of domestic electrical appliances. This new appointment has been created in order to develop new sales outlets. You will be responsible for identifying and contacting potential distributors, electrical wholesalers and home improvement stores, and also for negotiation of sales contracts and subsequent servicing of the new accounts. Applicants must be experienced in selling electrical goods and have established contacts. Send full cv to: Jane Parker, PER, Bankfield House, 162 New Union Street, Coventry CV1 2PE. Please list any company to whom you do not wish your application to be forwarded.

Sales Executives - CIM

Negotiable salary + car Nationwide

A successful specialist company established in 1970, we are actively involved in monitoring and computer-integrated manufacturing. As systems integrators, our activities include: systems, communications, applications/ integration software and total CIM turnkey systems. With worldwide systems installation bases and a wholly owned US subsidiary, we are currently capitalised and positioned for further expansion in Europe and the UK. Several experienced sales professionals are now required, who can demonstrate a proven track record in sales and marketing in manufacturing automation, electronics or information technology. With opportunities nationwide, these positions offer real long term career prospects and a very attractive salary package, together with good additional earnings potential, pension scheme and other fringe benefits. Please reply in confidence to: The Chief Executive, Mr TM Van Gestel, Dextralog Limited, Hiltside, Whitebark Industrial Estate, Blackburn BB1 5SN.



Manager - Sales Department

Applicants aged 28+ must have had several years' successful sales administration experience ideally in a consumer goods industry involved in world-wide exports. A knowledge of computerised systems is highly desirable and fluency in a European language would be an advantage. The main duties will include the management of the department which acts as the liaison point for the sales team in the UK and overseas. It covers the monitoring of all orders through from selling, production, warehousing, to despatch, the handling of all enquiries from established and potential customers and the control and production of accurate documentation and statistics within a strict time schedule. A good salary and benefits will be negotiated. Write (in confidence) giving details of experience and current salary to: The Personnel Director, Aquascutum Ltd, 100 Regent Street, London W1A 2AQ.



Software Engineers

Birmingham

RETIS Realtime Software UK, located at the Aston Science Park, wishes to recruit further software personnel, for projects in the UK and Switzerland. Software Engineers are required at all levels for the management and implementation of industrial software projects, including control, management information, warehouse and communication systems. Using Pascal, C, or Modula II, you will be managing, designing and implementing software for VAX, PDP 11, Intel and Motorola hardware. You should be qualified to degree or HNC level and possess initiative and the ability to work well in teams. Based in the UK, frequent, short visits to Switzerland may be necessary. A willingness to learn some German would be an advantage. Interested? Send full cv to: Doreen Woodward, PER, 150 Corporation Street, Birmingham B4 6TB.

RADIALL

Multinational Group in hi-tech electronics components

FOR RADIALL U.K. SUBSIDIARY (Located in Farnborough-Hants)

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCIAL MANAGER

Due to the rapid growth over the last 3 years (+ 88%) our General Manager requires additional managerial support in the financial and administrative field.

The Function: The manager shall be responsible for all aspects of finance (reporting, credit control, cash and stock management), administrative and staff procedures (including fully integrated computer system). This responsibility requires an ambitious and career orientated person capable of achieving the position of assistant to the General Manager.

The candidate: Practical experience (minimum of 3 years) in administration, financial control and data-processing within a commercial environment is essential. The candidate must be able to offer considerable drive and enthusiasm to achieve the objectives of the function.

To apply for this position, please write with full C.V. to RADIALL MICROWAVE COMPONENTS Ltd, Invincible Road - FARNBOROUGH (Hants)

OFFICE MANAGER

£14,000

Well-established West End property developers require an experienced office manager (30-45). The successful applicant must be self-motivated and possess an eye for detail. There will be the opportunity to become fully involved in the organisation, including setting up projects and the management of staff. Apply to Gary Neville on 01-466 6717 Allied Marks Recruitment Consultants.

ADVERTISING CONTINUED ON

PAGE 28.

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IN JANUARY MANY PEOPLE TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO SAVE £1,000 BY TAKING FORD CREDIT'S FINANCE DEAL.

WANT TO SAVE £1,000?
 YOU COULD WITH FORD CREDIT'S FINANCE SCHEME IF YOU NEED TO BORROW £5,500 FOR A NEW CAR.

In February rising interest rates meant that we had to revise this scheme. However, the new rate of finance was a low 5.9% p.a. (11.4% APR) over three years, or 4.9% p.a. (9.5% APR) over two years. It proved extremely popular.

So much so that we're now extending it to cover any Capri or Sierra registered between March 1st and March 31st, 1986.

Don't forget that the examples we give in the table are based on the maximum retail price of the car.



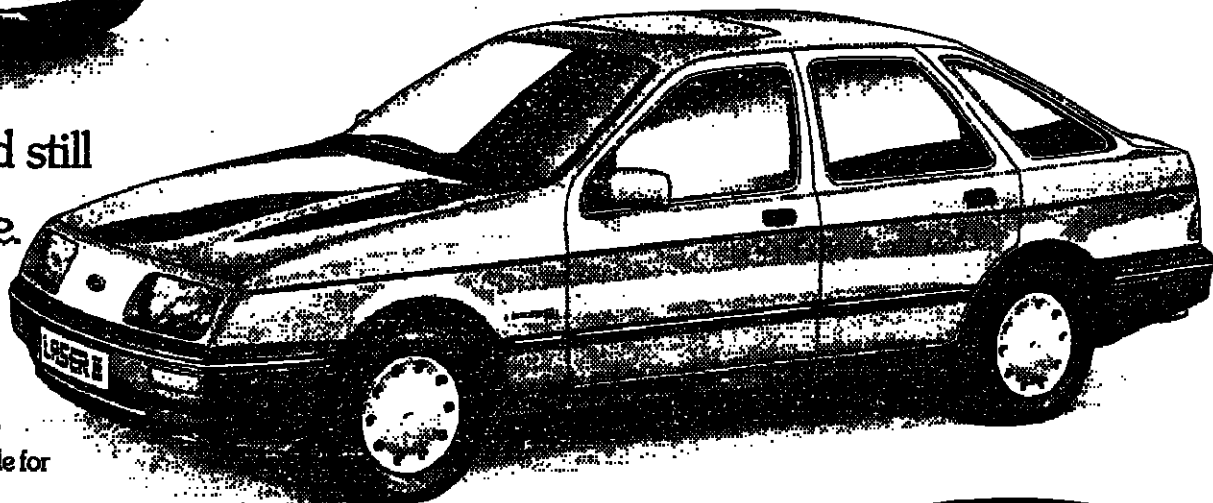
If you talk to your Ford dealer you could get an even better deal and still use the attractive interest rates quoted above.

Just take a look at these typical examples of Ford Credit Finance deals.

MODEL	SIERRA 1.8 LASER	CAPRI 2.0 LASER
APR	11.4%	11.4%
Cash Price*	7253.38	7328.44
Initial Payment (minimum 20%)	1450.68	1465.69
Amount of Credit	5802.70	5862.75
36 Monthly Instalments of	189.72	191.68
Charge for Credit	1027.22	1037.73
Total Credit Price	8280.60	8366.17

*Maximum retail price as at March 1st 1986 excluding delivery, number plates and road fund licence.

The above finance plan is subject to credit approval and applies to Sierra and Capri vehicles registered between March 1st and March 31st in England, Scotland and Wales and which are subject to Conditional Sale Agreements arranged by participating Ford dealers and underwritten by Ford Motor Credit Company Ltd, Regent House, 1 Hubert Road, Brentwood, Essex CM14 4QL. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and credit worthy. Please note: various factory fitted options are available for eligible vehicles at extra cost. Figures are correct at time of going to press.



السنة في الـ

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1389.5 (+14.9) FT-SE 100 1659.8 (+15.4) USM (Datastream) 119.42 (+1.37) THE POUND US dollar 1.4782 (+0.0010) W German mark 3.3442 (+0.0171) Trade-weighted 74.8 (+0.5)

Beecham in sales

Beecham, the pharmaceuticals and consumer products group which underwent a boardroom upheaval last autumn, is selling off two of its businesses as part of a strategic group review.

Reheis Chemical Company is being sold in a management buyout for \$23.5 million, and the retail milk business of Horlicks Farms and Dairies is going to Unigate for \$5.8 million.

Willis Faber, the Lloyd's insurance broker, increased pretax profits to £60.7 million in 1985, a rise of 29 per cent. The dividend was increased to 8.75p, a 35 per cent rise.

DRG, the stationery, packaging, office supplies and engineering company, made taxable profits in 1985 of £31.2 million, a rise of 20 per cent. The total dividend was raised 10 per cent to 8.25p.

Sea Containers has written off £10 million, partly as a result of the expense of its unsuccessful Channel Expressway bid. The write-off also covered losses arising from defaults of two lessees.

The Park Place offer for United Computer and Technology has been declared unconditional. Acceptances have been received for 53.4 per cent of shares, giving Park Place 56.2 per cent of UCAT.

Spong Holdings has exchanged conditional contracts for the acquisition of 80 per cent of the share capital of Hutchinson Design Consultants through the issue of 666,666 Spong shares, valuing Hutchinson at £120,000.

The City of Aberdeen has placed £7 million 10.80 per cent redeemable stock 2011 with institutions. The stock is being issued at £100 per cent and the first interest payment of £4.76384 per cent will be made on September 1. Dealings are expected to start tomorrow.

Newman Tonks, the Birmingham hardware and plastics company fighting a £67 million bid from McKee McKee Brothers, yesterday forecast a 25 per cent improvement in profits to at least £8.15 million for the year to October 31. The company also said the dividend would be increased by more than 30 per cent in the current year to 7.2p.

Lawson expects lower pay settlements after tax cut

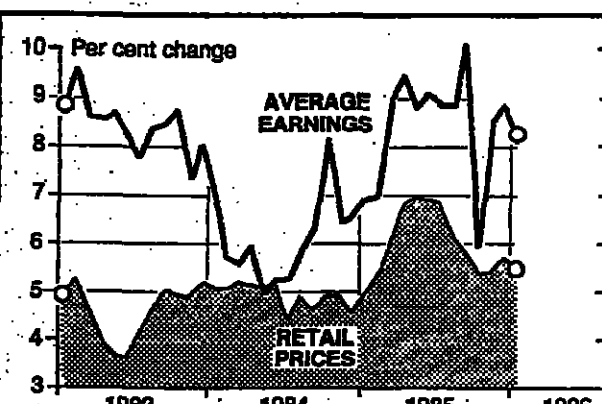
By David Smith Economics Correspondent

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Nigel Lawson, said yesterday that he expected the cut in the basic rate of income tax, announced on Tuesday, to be reflected in lower pay settlements.

Rapid growth in unit labour costs is keeping Britain's interest rates higher than they should be, he added.

Mr Lawson's comments came as Department of Employment figures were released showing a rise in average earnings of 8.3 per cent in the 12 months to January, compared with a 5.5 per cent increase in retail prices.

The underlying rate of growth of average earnings, after allowing for distortions, was 7.5 per cent, the same as in December and, apart from an upward blip last September, an underlying rate that has remained the same since July 1984.



Department of Employment officials said that there were no signs of an easing in the pace of earnings growth, with figures from the Confederation of British Industry showing settlements in the present pay round unchanged on last year.

The Chancellor, in a press briefing, said that one reason for the relatively high level of British interest rates, even after yesterday's reductions, is pay.

The Treasury's Budget forecast is for a 4.5 per cent rise in unit labour costs in 1986. Mr Lawson said yesterday that he hoped this figure would turn out to be too high.

The cut in the basic rate of income tax should lead to a lower level of pay settlements, the Chancellor said. He urged employers to stress the 1 per cent real income increase brought about by the tax cut in wage negotiations.

"It is an extra argument that management can use. They would be very foolish indeed if they did not," he said.

Manufacturing employment continues to decline, according to Department of Employment figures also released yesterday.

There was a 7,000 fall, to 5.34 million, in January. During last year, manufacturing employment fell by 64,000.

There was also a 10,000 decline in employment in the energy and water supply industries, mainly coal mining, in January.

Rank withdraws its bid for Granada but may try again

By Alison Eddie

The Rank Organisation has withdrawn its £741 million bid for Granada Group, but has obtained permission from the Takeover Panel to rebid within 21 days, if the objections of the Independent Broadcasting Authority are overcome.

The IBA blocked the bid because Granada owned the franchise for Granada Television which is not allowed to change hands without IBA permission. Rank's attempt to overturn the IBA's decision in court failed, but the appeal is due to be heard this week or next.

If the appeal fails, Rank will have to try to persuade the IBA to come to an arrangement. Mr Michael Gifford, chief executive of Rank, said yesterday: "We have a number of ideas we are pursuing. The IBA has so far declined to talk to Rank. It is thought Rank may offer to bid for Granada without the television franchise."

Rank has built up an 8 per cent stake in Granada at a cost of around £58 million. The shares of Granada fell 16p in after-hours trading from 280p to 264p. Rank shares gained 28p on the day to 537p.

New rules kill £800m market

By Lawrence Lever

The £800 million market in packaged capital transfer tax mitigation schemes, known as "inheritance trusts", has folded after the introduction of special provisions in the Budget.

Holder of these plans will not, however, be affected by the new provisions governing donors who retain an interest in gifted assets, usually under a trust or insurance arrangement.

The new rules will hit insurance companies such as Legal & General, who had heavily marketed CTT mitigation schemes. Legal & General has taken between £350 million and £400 million in the four years it provided the schemes. Yesterday the company withdrew its Capital Preservation Plan from the market.

Mr Christopher Marshall, Legal & General's legal services manager, said about 10,000 of these plans had been sold.

"It is sad this should have had to happen. The capital preservation plan was a handy way for people to pass capital on to their children, and retain an income from it," he said.

"Every single company marketing these types of plan will have to withdraw them. The clear suggestion last night was that it was the aggressive marketing of the CTT mitigation schemes by insurance companies and life offices which led to their downfall."

Schemes, marketed by Albany and Abbey Life, known as "deathbed schemes" had already been disallowed by the Inland Revenue.

The new provisions, similar in effect to old anti-avoidance estate duty measures, took the industry by surprise.

The effect of the provisions is to levy the new inheritance tax on a gift made under reservation, when that reservation ceases, which, in the case of mitigation schemes, would usually be the death of the donor.

Credit would be given for any tax paid at the time of the original gift, but the tax rates on death, under the inheritance tax regime are twice the old lifetime CTT rates.

The new provisions will apply to gifts made after midnight last Monday. In the case of gifts involving an insurance policy, the Inland Revenue takes the day the policy was effected, but generally the date of the gift will depend on the circumstances.

Opec up against UK stand

From David Young, Geneva

The oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries yesterday were forced to accept that Britain is unlikely to offer any cooperation to help ease the supply-demand imbalance in the world oil market which has sent prices spiralling downwards this year.

As talks continued with five non-Opec producers, Mexico, Egypt, Malaysia, Oman and Angola, on how they could help limit the amount of oil entering the free market, Opec members were digesting Mr Nigel Lawson's latest statement that the British Government will not change its policy of allowing the oil companies to set their own production targets in the North Sea.

Several Opec ministers in Geneva still harbour an outside hope that extended maintenance programmes in the North Sea may be "encouraged" by the Government this summer while prices are low.

However, Dr Arturo Grisanti, the Opec president, said yesterday: "Other non-Opec producers must be prepared to cooperate, but we have little hope now of any agreement."

A majority of members favour a return to the quotas set in London in 1983 comprising an overall ceiling of 16 million barrels a day while others have suggested that that figure is too high and that a more realistic ceiling would be 14 million barrels.

Guinness censured by Takeover Panel

By Jeremy Warner, Business Correspondent

Guinness was yesterday reprimanded by the Takeover Panel for comments it made to the Press about its £2.4 billion bid for Distillers and told to produce a full-blooded profit forecast at the earliest opportunity.

At a Press conference on February 20, Guinness, whose chief executive is Mr Ernest Saunders, said it had raised the terms of its bid for Distillers and that the merger would not involve any earnings dilution for existing Guinness shareholders. This has been interpreted by the Takeover Panel as tantamount to a profit forecast.

Rule 28 of the Takeover Code requires that all profit forecasts are reported on by the relevant auditors or consultant accountants and financial advisers.

The Panel said: "If a public statement is made which includes a profit forecast, the existence of this forecast should be acknowledged and the forecast reported on unless it is immediately and publicly withdrawn."

"The period of uncertainty between February 20 and today relating to the Guinness forecast was unfair to the other parties involved in the takeover."

A senior Guinness executive stated at the Press conference, which was attended by representatives of Guinness's financial adviser, Morgan Grenfell: "Although we are not making a forecast, we anticipate on the basis of public information that the earnings per share of the merged entity in 1986 will be at least as great as the



Ernest Saunders: told to produce profit forecast on its own and that there will be no dilution.

Mr James Gulliver's Argyll Group, the rival bidder for Distillers, has claimed that on the basis of published information, earnings dilution in the Guinness bid will be at least 16 per cent.

The Takeover Code states that advisers should ensure that directors and officials of companies know the code implications of what they say to journalists.

"It is very difficult after publication to alter an impression given or a view or remark attributed to a particular person," the code states.

"Particular areas of sensitivity on which comment should be avoided include future profits and prospects, asset values and the likelihood of the revision of an offer."

Meanwhile, Louro, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland's international trading group, has expressed an interest in buying the five whisky brands which Guinness and Distillers propose to sell to quell government fears about the effect of the merger on competition.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns for Stock Markets, Currencies, Gold, and Interest Rates. Includes data for FT 30 Share, Dow Jones, Nikkei Dow, Hang Seng, Amsterdams Gen, Sydney AG, Frankfurt, Commerzbank, Brussels, General, Paris CAC, Zurich, SKA General, London, Frankfurt, New York, and various interest rates.

Rodamco wins bid for Haslemere

Rodamco, the Dutch company, has won its £250 million takeover bid for Haslemere Estates, the property firm.

Haslemere has bowed to the inevitable and told its remaining shareholders to accept Rodamco's 64p per share offer. Rodamco, acting in concert with Rodamco Property, has more than 65 per cent of the company.

Haslemere's chairman, Mr David Pickford is to remain at Haslemere for the time being but Rodamco is drawing up new plans for the company and those will determine whether he remains.

Stockley leap

Stockley, the fast-growing property company which holds an unwelcome 26.5 per cent stake in Stock Conversion, one of Britain's largest property companies, yesterday announced pretax profits up 427 per cent to £3.76 million for the year ended November 30.

Barclays buys Visa cheque business

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Barclays Bank announced yesterday that it had acquired the Visa Travellers Cheque business of Chase Manhattan, the New York bank, making it one of the world's largest travellers cheque operators.

The price of the deal was not disclosed. Barclays is already the world's biggest issuer of Visa travellers cheques with about 9 per cent of the world market for travellers cheques. But the purchase will lift its market share to about 14 per cent with total turnover rising from £2.4 billion in 1985 to more than £4 billion.

Mr Peter Ellwood, chief executive of Barclaycard, said that the addition of the Chase Travellers Cheque operation to Barclays' existing operations demonstrated the bank's belief that travellers cheques would continue to play an important role with business travellers and holidaymakers.

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Morgan and ICI open a new loan market

Yesterday we saw a prime example of the City of London at its best. With extraordinary speed, skill and not a little foresight on the part of Morgan Grenfell, allied with ICI's high professionalism and capacity for rapid decision making, a new market for UK long term corporate loans was opened. Between them, Morgans and ICI may have uncovered a significant demand in Europe for long term sterling loan instruments.

The bank raised £100 million for ICI in the Euro-sterling market. The bond carries a 10 per cent coupon, the issue price was £99 1/2 per cent and the life 17 years. Hitherto this market has been tapped only for five to 10 year loans. But the length of the loan is only the beginning of the story. The issue was made without covenants - something which UK investing institutions had hitherto refused to countenance. But they have now seen the light in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's eyes. His decision, revealed in Tuesday's budget speech to put a half per cent (not one per cent as too hastily reported here yesterday) stamp duty on transfers of loan stock was destined to have two immediate consequences: it would dry up the liquidity of the domestic loan market and it would drive new loan issues offshore. The notable exception to the new stamp duty rule are Euro-sterling bonds (to have denied UK companies alone access to this market would have been an absurdity not even the most doctrinaire official would contemplate).

Faced with this entirely new situation the institutions promptly cast aside their carted insistence on covenants and went scrambling after the new ICI stock, which promptly went half a point above the issue price and was being traded on a level with European Investment Bank paper. To be fair, price was also a factor. Yesterday's one point cut in bank base rates, with the half promise of still lower rates to come, could not have been better timed, either for ICI or its merchant bankers. But the breaking of the covenant wall is the really significant development. And where ICI has had the perceptiveness, and the courage, to go other major UK companies will surely follow. In addition to have abolished a tax on Tuesday, Nigel Lawson, albeit inadvertently, also created a new market.

The murmurs of approval added fuel to already roaring markets. Gilts

rose by 2 1/2 points at the long end, with dealers citing the Budget rather than the expected one-point base rate cut. Equities accelerated towards 1,400 on the FT 30-share index.

Roger Nightingale at Hoare Govett found the Budget "well balanced and politically canny" and particularly good for the City. Laing & Cruickshank's verdict is that the PSBR forecast is "achievable and cautious."

Mark Cliffe at Capel-Cure Myers thinks that the Chancellor has delivered a prudent and cautious package, which is probably a little too cautious in its predictions for non-oil tax revenues and the likely scope for tax cuts this time next year.

There may have been doubts about the medium term financial strategy before the Budget. There are fewer now. "The sound money philosophy embodied in the PSBR and the reintroduction of the sterling M3 target... will allow UK interest rates to decline significantly over the coming year," Laurie Milbank says.

Rowe & Pitman believes that the Budget's fiscal and monetary forecasts are credible and, in the case of the PSBR, "unusually realistic." De Zoete & Bevan thinks that the Chancellor succeeded in improving the Government's standing, pursuing a reforming strategy, and dealing in the right way with the consequences of a falling oil price, all at one go.

The bright young men will have a chance to test their new found admiration for Mr Lawson quite soon. A detailed speech on monetary policy is promised in the middle of next month.

Ending old account

The days must surely now be numbered for the Stock Exchange's two-week account trading system. The Budget announcement that dealings within the account are to become liable to the new 0.5 per cent rate of stamp duty will certainly hasten the end of a settlement system which is already under review because of the far reaching changes due to come into effect on October 27.

For institutions, the effect of the Budget changes will be to double the cost of account trading, while for small traders dealing in bargains worth about £2,000 a time costs will rise by about a third. Thus there is bound to be some consequent fall-off in account trading and in the market's overall liquidity.

Most markets around the world have a 48-hour rolling settlement system. In New York liquidity is provided by the brokers who allow their clients to deal on margin in return for a charge over the securities. This must surely be the way forward for London.

Glittering approval

The young men who write the brokers' circulars have given the Budget a virtual clean sweep of favourable reviews. Perhaps they were partly influenced by the fact that the Budget contained nothing to hit them in the wallet, despite the talk beforehand.

The murmurs of approval added fuel to already roaring markets. Gilts

Oppenheimer Our fund management plus the best of the rest. The newly formed Oppenheimer Unit Trust Portfolio Management Service will appeal to those investors with £10,000 or more who seek capital appreciation from a portfolio of unit trusts invested around the world. The advantages of this service for professional advisers include: ACTIVE AND INVOLVED MANAGEMENT by the team which in 1985 produced "excellent overall performance" - including the No.1 Unit Trust. MARKET INTELLIGENCE: its our business to know our competitors and we will use this knowledge to select funds from over 120 other groups to make up at least half of the portfolio. BETTER PROTECTION IN BEAR MARKETS with the ability to go totally into cash - currently not possible with a unit trust. ONE POINT OF CONTACT providing simplified administration and regular valuations. To find out how the Oppenheimer Unit Trust Portfolio Management Service can benefit you and your clients call Graham Hunter on 01-236 2558/2559/2550. Or write to him at 66 Cannon Street, London EC4.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Base rate cuts send share prices surging to record

The City gave an enthusiastic welcome to the Chancellor's tax-cutting Budget and the widely anticipated base rates and mortgage cuts. Dealers were at their desks from 8am coping with a flood of buying orders for consumer shares, builders, breweries and banks.

By the time the market officially opened at 9.30 the FT Index was already showing a rise of more than 11 points. The one point base rate cut from the clearing banks, swiftly followed by 12 per cent mortgage rates from the two biggest building societies, provided the icing on the cake and the index surged to close up 14.9 points at a record 1389.5.

Demand for government securities was such that last week's new convertible tap issue was exhausted at £26¼ as trading began. Quotations recorded gains of 1½ points.

The main beneficiaries of the tax and mortgage cuts were stores and builders. Double figure gains were frequent in both sectors. Tarmac scored another 20p rise to 472p while Barratt Developments improved 8p to 152p ahead of today's half-time results. Wimpey, helped by press comment, climbed 16p to 183p.

In stores, Dixons illustrated the buoyant mood up 18p to 348p. Combined English Stores, reporting soon, gained 7p to 205p while Barton Group was marked up 16p to 336p.

Breweries celebrated the absence of duty increases. Bass soared 28p to 783p and Grand

Metropolitan gained 18p to 403p. In distilleries Macallan Glenlivet was hoisted 25p to 359p in spite of lower profits. Banks attracted strong demand as the windfall profits tax failed to appear. Lloyds led the way at 634p, up 34p, with National Westminster a close second at 884p, up 29p.

Life assurance companies fell sharply on fears of competition from the Personal Equity Plan which begins next January. Sun Life fell 35p to 979p and Legal and General with results due today tumbled 28p to 784p.

International favourites were also dull on worries that the surprise 5 per cent tax on American Depository Receipts will frighten away potential overseas investors. Jaguar at 453p, Reuters 458p and Glaxo 1027p were among those to slip. Wellcome at 221p dropped 12p, additionally upset by rumours that one of its drugs had side effect problems in America.

Electricals were another drab sector as one broker suggested that the recent rally had gone too far and that clients should switch into other sectors. Dubilier was particularly weak at 192p, down 18p, as the stockbroker De Zoete Bevan downgraded its profit forecasts.

Others to decline included GEC at 198p, Rascol 196p and Ferranti 144p, between 6p and 10p lower.

Company statements provided many good features. DRG reported profits well up to expectations, the shares advancing 15p to 278p.

Favourable news also supported George Scholes at 555p, Logica 191p, Armstrong Equipment 128p and Alida Holdings 445p, up 4p to 25p.

Disappointing profits knocked 7p from Rentakil at 165p and 10p from Strong and Fisher at 136p.

Oils were stimulated by reports from Geneva that Opec ministers had agreed production cuts in principle. BP at 573p and Shell 768p both put on 10p while Sun Oil was similarly higher at 114p on rumours of a North Sea find. British, with full year results due today, hardened 3p to 188p. Dealers are looking for net profits of around £190 million.

St Ives Group continued to reflect satisfaction with the expansion moves, up 25p to 815p. Parkfield made further progress at 405p, up 19p, on growth prospects while Sale Tilney was hoisted 22p to 280p in anticipation of today's results.

Access Satellite rallied 17p to 85p. Revived takeover speculation excited Britannia Arrow at 153p, up 10p. Sharply higher profits helped Stockley to a 3p improvement at 80p.

Buoyant merchant banks featured Schroders at 1488p, up 50p, ahead of today's results. Good profits on Tuesday boosted Expatnet a further 6p to 174p, but a disappointing 5 per cent set-back clipped a penny from Hepworth Ceramic at 183p.

Newman Tonks rose 5p to 140p on the higher dividend and profits forecast. Bid hopes lifted Raine Industries 4½p to 49p and Burgess Group, an

other speculative favourite, advanced 14p to 218p.

Jones Shipman ended unchanged at 123p after touching 130p, the doubled profits already discounted. Keaning Motor, in receipt of an unwelcome offer from Tozer Kemsley, jumped 12p to 188p matching the rise in Tozer.

THF at 203p, up 7p, looked forward to an influx of foreign visitors arriving to see the royal wedding. Ratners the jeweller attracted sympathetic interest at 134p, up 6p.

Tobacco shares were underpinned by the swinging price increase in cigarettes.

Smith and Nephew, reporting today, added 6p to 243p. Analysts expect pretax profits of around £70 million, up from £55.5 million. Gestetner lost 7p to 125p after the cautious statement at the annual meeting. In narrowly mixed mines, Kitz was in demand again on bid hopes, up 18p to 682p. In late trading Granada fell 8p to 264p as Rank Organisation withdrew its present offer.

COMPANY NEWS

● CHAMBERS & FARGUS: Half-year to Dec. 28, 1985. No interim dividend (same), but the board expects to make a payment for the full year. No dividend was paid for the previous year. Turnover £8.45 million (£9.93 million). Pretax profit £51,000 (loss £70,000). Earnings per share 0.9p (loss 1.1p).

● ALFA-LAVAL: Dividend for 1985 raised from 9 to 10 Swedish krona. Net sales 10,046 million krona (£948 million), against 8,848 million krona. Pretax income 824 million krona (235 million krona). The company expects income to continue rising in 1986.

Bell's fancy footwork thwarts BHP move

From Stephen Taylor Sydney

Mr Robert Holmes à Court's campaign to gain control of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company (BHP) has been nudged forward in two ways over the past 48 hours. But although market analysts say the odds on his success are shortening all the time, he will now have to wait until the middle of next month for his way to be cleared further.

The Hawke Cabinet yesterday endorsed an amended bill which will remove the only legislative obstacle to the takeover of Australia's corporate giant by Mr Holmes à Court's Bell Group.

The Liberal opposition is in disarray over its attitude to the Bell bid, but there seems ample support to ensure the bill's passage after parliament re-opens on April 9.

Meanwhile, BHP has been left embarrassed by the latest display of fancy footwork by the Bell chairman.

In a counter attack which started last week, brokers acting for BHP had been buying Bell shares with the intention of gaining for "the big Australian" the power to block a Bell share placement which was a condition of Mr Holmes à Court's takeover bid.

Under the terms of the bid, Bell Resources must issue up to 120 million shares to its parent company, the Bell Group "to provide additional working capital and enable Bell Group to maintain its equity in the company in the event of the allotment of shares as consideration for shares in BHP".

BHP's A\$125 million (£60 million) share acquisition was apparently rendered useless when Mr Holmes à Court dropped a bombshell at a special Bell meeting in Perth.

In a performance which delighted his supporters, the Bell chairman disclosed that the vendor of about a million of the BHP shares had been the Bell Group itself. That, he said, could mean that BHP was a Bell Group associate and as such would not be entitled, like himself, to vote on the placement resolution.

Mr Holmes à Court said he had consulted the national companies and securities committee, which had said it needed more time to deliver an opinion whether BHP had indeed been made a Bell associate.

Willis Faber results underwrite rating

TEMPUS

Willis Faber appears to have no trouble consistently producing results that justify its long-held premium rating.

Pretax profits for last year were 29 per cent higher at £60.7 million. They included 15 months or an extra £815,000 contribution from Carter, Wilkes & Fane.

Income (brokerage, underwriting commission and interest) rose 23 per cent, comfortably ahead of expenses, which were an under-lying 15 per cent higher. Overall revenue, including associates but not Morgan Grenfell, was also up by exactly 15 per cent.

Morgan Grenfell, in which Willis has a 23 per cent stake, chipped in £12.2 million, a handsome 42 per cent increase on the previous year. Willis is taking a relaxed view of Morgan's current search for capital. It supported the attempted link-up with Exco and would be quite prepared to see the bank go public.

The blot on 1985 results was the £3.6 million loss from Willis's company underwriting. The non-marine business, which caused the problems, has now been discontinued and it is hoped that reserving is sufficient to deal with claims as they come in.

This year promises to be another good one with pretax profits of £75 million on the horizon. Although the dollar has moved the wrong way, Willis has covered forward a large part of its 1986 exposure and some of its 1987 exposure. Last year there was a £4.5 million currency benefit.

Rate hardening continues patchily, with aviation up sharply after the spate of disasters last year. The constraints on capacity, however, are not easing and certain classes of business, particularly product liability, are impossible to place. Some automotive and drug companies are having to risk their balance sheets and go without cover. The brokers meanwhile lose the brokerage.

Willis's shares rose 10p to 457p before easing back to 449p. They are trading on a historic p/e ratio of 22.4 and a prospective p/e of 16.5.

Although the high rating does not offer great opportunities for further gains, the shares are a sound hold.

Willis employees, who are now being offered shares worth £300 a head in a company profit-sharing scheme, should do well, particularly if they put their shares into the Chancellor's new Personal Equity Plan.

Clyde Petroleum

While not many oil industry watchers are prepared to hazard a guess on what the oil price will be for the rest of this year, or even next week, most believe that the balance of supply and demand will tighten up in the 1990s, giving firm support to prices.

Reserves outside Opec will then be at a premium, and the oil companies which own these reserves will once more find favour in the stock market. If they survive that long.

Without question, survival is uppermost in the minds of the chief executives of the independent oil companies. Unless the oil price revives, many of them will not be around to enjoy the buoyant outlook for the 1990s.

Malcolm Gourlay, chief executive of Clyde Petroleum, intends that his company will be around, although he admits that unless North Sea prices recover to \$18 per barrel or more Clyde will be struggling to survive beyond the next three years.

With its spread of assets, Clyde is better positioned than many to withstand low oil prices. At current prices, its 1986 cash flow is likely to be halved from £14.1 million last year to nearer £7 million, but Clyde is well placed to cope with this by slashing the discretionary parts of its exploration budget.

Clyde's North Sea producing fields are well balanced, while the Wyth Farm oilfield development will ensure continuing production beyond the year 2000. The company has approximately £14 million of cash, some of which will be run down this year, and about £18.5 million of debt. As Wyth Farm is developed, debt will increase and Clyde will draw heavily on its \$125 million medium-term corporate credit facility.

Herein lies the rub. Interest payments form an item of fixed spending which will eat

into cash flow at ever increasing rates until Wyth Farm production reaches its peak in 1989.

Survival strategy is simple - cut overheads, persuade BP to cut the cost of Wyth Farm, sell the US properties and halt exploration. The management has identified the problem and is implementing the solutions. If it fails, it will be because the oil price has remained too low for too long. If it succeeds, it is likely to be a long haul.

DRG

DRG has been enjoying a quiet rerating in recent months and yesterday's announcement of 1985 pretax profits 20 per cent ahead fuelled another surge in its share price to a record 278p.

The benefits of the reorganization of the last five years are continuing to come through particularly in the United Kingdom stationery division, where operating profits were 70 per cent higher at £13.9 million making up half the total.

Carbonless copy paper made great strides and commercial envelopes increased their market share. The quest for cost cutting and margin improvements continues with spending on new and improved plant rising to £35 million this year against £18 million last year.

The quest for acquisitions also continues. In recent months DRG has spent £7.5 million on four acquisitions and buying out the minority in its New Zealand subsidiary. The latest purchase of a French medical packaging company was announced yesterday.

DRG has the finances to land a much bigger acquisition. The £33.4 million rights issue last September wiped out gearing, giving scope for spending up to £60 million before reaching a ceiling of 30 per cent gearing.

The company is looking to add to its existing range of businesses in Britain, Europe or the United States. This year DRG looks capable of making £38 million pretax giving a prospective p/e ratio of 10.4, assuming tax stays at a modest 26 per cent.

GEORGE H. SCHOLES PLC

WYLEX WORKS, WYTHENSHAW, MANCHESTER M22 4RA

Manufacturers of Wylex Electrical Products



INTERIM REPORT

Unaudited results for the half year to 31st December, 1985

	1985	1984
Turnover	£'000 14,137	£'000 12,109
Trading profit	2,114	1,865
Income from shares in related companies	85	124
Other interest receivable and similar income	248	228
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	2,446	2,217
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	968	953
Profit after taxation for the period	1,478	1,264
Proposed interim dividend:		
Rate per share	8p	6p
Amount	514	386
Retained profit for the period	964	878
Earnings per share based on profit on ordinary activities after taxation	23.0p	19.7p

The unaudited results for the half year to 31st December 1985 are shown above.

The company has had a successful first half year with a satisfactory upturn in sales and profit. The start of our second half has been encouraging and we look forward to continuing at our present level of activity.

You see a significant increase in the interim dividend. This increase is being paid to improve the relationship between the interim and the final. It should not be taken as an indication of an increase in the total dividend. The directors have today declared an interim dividend of 8p per share payable on 14th May 1986 to shareholders on the register at 10th April 1986.

G. R. C. McDowell, Chairman
19th March 1986

Bank of Scotland Base Rate

Bank of Scotland announces that, with effect from 19th March, 1986 its Base Rate will be decreased from 12.50% per annum to 11.50% per annum

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The Peterborough Effect

Latest prices:

At last some help for the hard pressed Imperial shareholder. Mindful that share prices can vary daily, we are publishing a bulletin showing the value of each of the offers for your company. In order to be perfectly fair, the values we've quoted are based on the best possible offers. Hanson's offer closes at 5pm on March 24th.

HANSON BID WORTH:

372.5p

UNITED BISCUITS BID WORTH:

357.8p

HANSON BID BETTER BY:

+ 34.7p

Figures based on the market prices at 5.30pm on Wednesday.

HANSON TRUST
CONTINUING GROWTH FROM BASIC BUSINESSES.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Budget euphoria

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 10. Dealings end March 27. Contango day April 1. Settlement day, April 7. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

THE TIMES Portfolio

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Year Gain or Loss. Lists various companies like Travis & Arnold, Higgs & Hill, etc.

Weekly Dividend table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, Total.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: High, Low, Stock, Price, Change, %.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: No., Year, Gain or Loss.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Year, Gain or Loss.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: No., Year, Gain or Loss.

UNDATED table with columns: No., Year, Gain or Loss.

INDEX-LINKED table with columns: No., Year, Gain or Loss.

BANKS DISCOUNT HP table with columns: No., Year, Gain or Loss.

BREWERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

BUILDING AND ROADS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

CINEMAS AND TV table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

DRAPERY AND STORES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

ELECTRICALS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

FINANCE AND LAND table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

FOODS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

HOTELS AND CATERERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

INDUSTRIALS A-D table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

INDUSTRIALS E-H table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

INDUSTRIALS I-L table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

INSURANCE table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

LEISURE table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

MINEING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

OIL table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

PROPERTY table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

SHIPPING table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

SHOES AND LEATHER table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

TEXTILES table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

TOBACCOS table with columns: No., Company, Price, Change, %.

THE TIMES Portfolio

THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000 Claims required for +33 points Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Large table on the right side of the page containing various stock market data, including company names, prices, and changes.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Abaco thinks small for big gains

By Judith Huntley

Abaco Investments, the fast growing property and financial services company billed as tomorrow's Exco, has come up with a new investment vehicle which offers an alternative to selling units in commercial property.

Speciality Shops is a £14.5 million institutionally backed investment company for investing in management-intensive - but potentially highly rewarding - town-centre retail developments.

These will be a far cry from the traditional, large-scale, multiple retailer dominated schemes in the centre of large cities.

Abaco's new vehicle will invest in developing small-scale (35,000 sq ft to 75,000 sq ft) schemes with a value of between £2 million and £7 million.

The Rouse Corporation's work in America has been taken as the model for Speciality Shops' developments which will cater for high-margin retailers with a strong emphasis on tourist spending. Small market or university towns will be the target areas.

While the debate about selling units in individual properties continues, Abaco is using a well established vehicle to allow institutional investors to participate in a sector of the market normally considered too management-intensive to be worthwhile. It is the type of vehicle which brings the liquidity not seen in direct property investment.

Mr Peter Goldie, chief executive of Abaco, remains sceptical about unitization.

He said: "Companies have been around for a long time. They are excellent things for raising more money and company law has been built up over 150 years to cope with all the problems that might arise. There are still a lot of unanswered questions about unitization, including that of insider trading."

Speciality Shops has been set up as a corporate structure with a mix of equity and loan stock. The coupon on the loan stock is tax-deductible and the income generated is gross which allows gross funds to collect the tax payable.

The investors in Speciality Shops - Abaco, the British & Commonwealth Shipping Company, Canada Life Assurance Company, London and Manchester Assurance and Sun Life Assurance of Canada all invest directly in property already but the new company allows them to enter a different field.

"Managing a speciality centre is more like running a hotel. You can't just send in a chartered surveyor once a

year," Mr Goldie said. Mount Provincial Developments, the renamed property side of Abaco, which is headed by Mr David Houghton and Mr Stephen Jaffe, both chartered surveyors from Canada Life, will manage the schemes.

The first two developments being injected into Speciality Shops at cost are the Berkeley Shopping Centre at Clifton,

Bristol, and The Courtyard in Montpellier, Cheltenham, totalling £4.8 million.

Both schemes have been developed by Canada Life, the Clifton scheme in conjunction with Mount Provincial. They have been put into the new vehicle as seedcorn to help Speciality Shops off the ground.

Mount Provincial sees its

development, land agents, mineral, land and marine divisions have exactly the same prominence within the RICS as general practice, quantity surveyors and building surveyors who between them represent 90 per cent of the membership," Mr Wells said.

Mr Wells also wanted to sweep away the rules and regulations surrounding advertising, marketing, soliciting for instructions, fee tendering and the provision of other financial services.

Mr Wells said the property market was changing rapidly. "The market is at best static, at worst reducing in size - but with more

players from outside the profession trying to compete.

Project Development Europe is building a £60 million commercial complex on the waterfront in the Isle of Dogs, the only enterprise zone in London. The Brunel Centre, as the scheme is known, is funded by the London Leasing Company.

Southwest Corporation 6 3/4% Redeemable Stock 1983/6, Barclays Bank PLC, Registration Department, Radcliffe Hall, Knutsford, Cheshire WA16 9EU hereby give notice that in order to prepare the interest on the 9th May 1986 the balances on the several accounts in the above Stock will be struck at the close of business on 9th April 1986.

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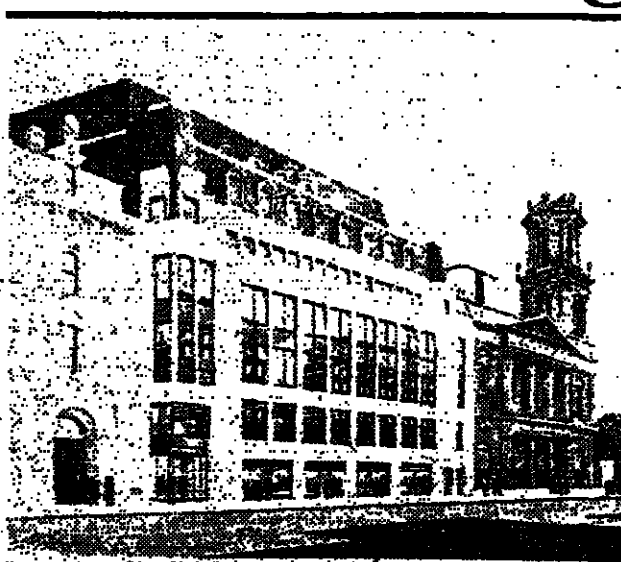
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Town & City Properties (Developments) with Norwich Union, the insurance company, has started work on the new 47,000 sq ft office scheme, Morley House, at 26/30 Holborn Viaduct in the City of London. There will be shops fronting the viaduct and basement parking. The letting agent is Hillier Parker.

Mr Wells also wanted to sweep away the rules and regulations surrounding advertising, marketing, soliciting for instructions, fee tendering and the provision of other financial services.

Mr Wells said the property market was changing rapidly. "The market is at best static, at worst reducing in size - but with more

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Do-it-yourself superstores face stiffer competition

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The approach to Easter in the high season for Britain's £3 billion do-it-yourself market, which is facing its biggest shake-up for years.

Two of the three leading DIY companies have been taken over in the past fortnight and the future of the other is in question.

The pace of competition will intensify this year if shop hour regulations are eased, with widespread Sunday opening of DIY stores, which are expected to gain most.

A warning has also come in a report* on the industry by Jordans Surveys, the business analyst, suggesting that the big groups could face stiffer competition.

The industry's short-term future looks bright, the report says, but the burgeoning number of DIY superstores will soon run out of small independent firms which to capture market share.

The three biggest retailers, with a combined turnover of more than £700 million, already account for about a fifth of the DIY market in home repairs, maintenance and decoration. This sector accounts for about 40 per cent of the overall home improvement

market, which on the widest definition is estimated by the National Home Improvement Council to have been worth £8.2 billion last year.

B&Q, a subsidiary of Woolworth, with more than 170 stores, is clear market leader. Woolworth is seen as a takeover target.

The second largest chain, Home Charm, which sells under both the Texas and, more recently, the Bulk banners, was sold last week to Ladbroke, the betting and hotels group, for £201 million.

Home Charm, as well as having a range of smaller outlets, has more than 100 superstores, most of them in Texas outlets.

Bulk is aimed at those buying heavier items including bricks, timber, sand and cement.

The heavy end of the trade

is a growth area, such stores being used by many in the building trade for their supplies.

Wickes, an offshoot of a United States operation, is attacking the same market as well as the more traditional market. It has about 20 outlets in Britain.

Payless, third largest of the DIY chains, was bought a fortnight ago from Marley for £94 million by Ward White, Payless now has nearly 70 outlets, increasingly adding the larger superstores on the pattern found among the other big DIY groups.

DIY is now a more mature market but there are still big growth sectors, notably in security products.

*The British DIY Industry: Jordans Surveys, Jordan House, 47 Brunswick Place, London N1 6EE £125.

Conoco may move offices to Victoria Plaza

Conoco, the oil company, is believed to be in talks with Greycost Group, the developer of the Victoria Plaza office development above Victoria Station in London, about taking space in phase two of the scheme.

Greycost is reluctant to comment on the possibility of pre-letting the 350,000 sq ft second phase after its potential tenant, Decca Witter, the finance house, pulled out of phase one after protracted talks. Salomon Brothers is the biggest occupier there now.

Conoco has offices scattered around the West End of London and is thought to want to bring them under one

roof. It is advised by Richard Ellis. Greycost is also talking to some of the US investment banks about moving to Victoria, something which has become "respectable" since Salomon Brothers' move there.

Victoria Plaza is jointly developed by Greycost, Sir Robert McAlpine, the construction company, and the British Rail Property Board. All have equal shares in the scheme. Greycost, which is putting £50 million into phase two of the project, is not yet close to signing a letting.

Radical changes in the structure of the Royal Institution of Chartered Survey-

ors, are being urged by Mr William Wells, the senior partner of Chestertons. Mr Wells, told the RICS annual conference in Cardiff this week, that existing divisions within the institution should be abolished and two new ones created.

He wanted to see the enlargement of the general practice division to encompass the present divisions whose members make up only a small proportion of the membership. And he called for quantity surveyors and building surveyors to be put into a new division for chartered construction surveyors.

"It simply cannot be right that the planning and

development, land agents, mineral, land and marine divisions have exactly the same prominence within the RICS as general practice, quantity surveyors and building surveyors who between them represent 90 per cent of the membership," Mr Wells said.

Mr Wells also wanted to sweep away the rules and regulations surrounding advertising, marketing, soliciting for instructions, fee tendering and the provision of other financial services.

Mr Wells said the property market was changing rapidly. "The market is at best static, at worst reducing in size - but with more

players from outside the profession trying to compete.

Project Development Europe is building a £60 million commercial complex on the waterfront in the Isle of Dogs, the only enterprise zone in London. The Brunel Centre, as the scheme is known, is funded by the London Leasing Company.

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Anambra State Water Corporation

3 Constitution Road, P.M.B. 01296, Enugu.
5th March, 1986

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE SUPPLY OF SPARES FOR MECHANICAL AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

- The Anambra State Water Corporation proposes to rehabilitate some of the mechanical and electrical equipment installed at the pumping stations, for which project a number of spares will be needed. The foreign component of the cost of spares will be funded out of a loan provided by the World Bank for the Anambra State Water Supply and Sanitation Project.
- Details of spares requirements are as follows:
Spares for 1) Sumo Submersible Pumps
2) Pleuger Submersible Pumps
3) Rolls Royce Diesel Engine Model CSTFL
4) Rolls Royce Diesel Engine Model SF 6ST
5) Rolls Royce Diesel Engine Model C6200 and C8TCA
6) Petbour generators
7) Elco generators
8) Electrical Switchgear
9) Perkins Diesel Engine Model 4.236 and 6.354
10) Elco Water Treatment Plant
11) JCB Excavator
12) Pont - A - Monsson Water Meters
13) Fittings for Asbestos Cement Pipes to 150 Standards
- Tenders are now invited for supply of spares for any or all of the above items.
- Tenders will be received only from persons or firms from the territories of member countries of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Switzerland and Taiwan. Expenditures for goods produced in or services provided from the territories of any country (other than Switzerland and Taiwan) which is not a member of IBRD will not be permitted and tenders contemplating such expenditures will be rejected.
- Tender documents shall be collected from the Secretary to the Corporation.
- Completed Tenders should be marked "Confidential Tender for the Supply of Spares for Mechanical and Electrical Equipment" addressed to:
The Secretary,
Anambra State Water Corporation,
3, Constitution Road,
P.M.B. 01296,
Enugu.
- Tenders must be received on or before 3.30 p.m. on 2nd May.
- The Corporation is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

(J. C. Udegbala)
Secretary

ANAMBRA STATE WATER CORPORATION

APPOINTMENTS

Ampercord Communications: Mrs Diane Clarke and Mr Alastair Barcroft have joined the board.

Combustion Engineering Europe: Mr Derek Bargh has been made vice-president, business development.

UniBond-Copydex: Mr Richard Aston has become managing director and chief executive officer.

James Ferguson Holdings: Mr Peter Clowes and Dr Peter Naylor have been named non-executive directors and Mr Christopher Newman has been appointed finance director.

Britannia Okasan International Investment Management: Mr D S R Fleming has been appointed managing director.



Mr Alan Saeddon, above, has been made chief general manager-designate of Co-operative Insurance Society and will succeed Mr Arthur Duval on his retirement next year.

COMPANY NEWS

● **ST IVES GROUP:** The company is to merge with Chase Printers (Holdings), a colour magazine printer based in the West Country. St Ives will pay £22 million for Chase, which is a private company controlled by Mr Max Harvey and his family.

● **COMBINED TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION:** Three months to Dec. 31, 1985. Loss attributable £1.37 million (loss £2.02 million). Nine months to Dec. 31, 1985. Loss attributable £3.52 million (loss £2.5 million).

● **INVESTMENT AB BELIER:** Dividend 8 Swedish krona (3.85 krona) for 1985. Sales 1,520 million krona (1,120 million krona). Income before tax 428 million krona (£40 million), compared with 233 million krona.

● **PRESTWICH HOLDINGS:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1985. Interim dividend 0.35p on enlarged capital (0.35p). Turnover £1.49 million (£4.54 million). Pretax profit £813,000 (£424,000).

● **TECHNOFAN:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1985. No interim dividend (nil). Turnover 24.53 million francs (16.59 million francs). Pretax profit 4.16 million francs (about £400,000), against 2.48 million francs.

● **BM GROUP:** Half-year to Dec. 31, 1985. Interim dividend 0.66p (0.66p), payable on May 6. Turnover £16.29 million (£13.08 million). Pretax profit £1.03 million (£480,000). Earnings per share 3.64p (1.81p). The board looks forward to the current year's outcome with optimism.

● **E W TARRY:** Mr M Simchowicz, the chairman, forecasts in his annual statement that the company's earnings in 1986 will at least equal 1985's and that the company will pay dividends on a three times covered basis.

● **TELECOM:** The company has agreed to buy from Mr R Balyne and others, Movitel Services, Caribbean Programme Services and Eurotel Programme Distributors. The agreement is conditional on trillion's shareholders approval.

● **MNEMOS:** Nine months to Dec. 31, 1985. Turnover \$150,000 (\$197,000). Pretax loss \$4.7 million (about £3 million), against \$7.02 million. No tax (nil). The loss is lower because of staff reductions and cost control.

● **GUERNSEY ATLANTIC SECURITIES:** Pretax revenue for 1985, £30,655 (£24,298). Dividend 3.5 per cent (3 per cent), payable on May 5.

● **WATMOUGHS (HOLDINGS):** Final dividend 4.8p (4.55p) on increased capital, payable on April 25, making 6.3p (6.25p) for 1985. Turnover £30.8 million (£27 million). Pretax profit £2.31 million (£2.3 million). Adjusted earnings per share (net basis) 18.25p (21.30p). The board looks forward to substantial improvement in profits in 1986.

● **AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS:** No final dividend for 1985 in view of the merger with BBA (0.5p), making a total of 1p (1.5p). Turnover £260.2 million (£25.6 million). Pretax profit £7.5 million, as forecast at the time of BBA's offer (against £3.9 million).

● **NORANK SYSTEMS:** No dividend for 1985, as forecast. Turnover 1.2 million (£693,000). Pretax profit £404,000 (£191,000). Earnings per share 7.8p (1.3p).

● **EXPAMET INTERNATIONAL:** Final dividend 3.55p (3p), making 5.9p (5p) for 1985. Turnover £52.45 million (£41.93 million). Pretax profit £4.37 million (£3.19 million). Earnings per share 12.58p (9.49p).

● **PENNINE RESOURCES:** Half-year to Sept. 30, 1985. Turnover £4.13 million (£1.14,000). Pretax profit £90,000 (loss £25,000). Earnings per share 0.6p (loss 0.2p).

● **MERCHANTS' WAREHOUSING:** Interim dividend 0.9p (0.9p), payable April 4. Revenue for the 24 weeks to Dec. 14, 1985, £1.67 million (£1.64 million). Pretax profit £137,000 (£225,000). Earnings per share 2.07p (2.76p).

● **CLONDALKIN GROUP:** Total dividend for 1985, 8.15p (7p). Turnover Irish 247.12 million (Irish £42.07 million). Pretax profit Irish £3.54 million (Irish £3.13 million). Earnings per share 27.48p (23.45p).



NatWest announces that with effect from Wednesday, 19th March, 1986, its Base Rate is decreased from 12.50% to 11.50% per annum.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate of interest linked to NatWest Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

41 Lombury London EC2P 2EP



Courtts & Co

Courtts & Co. announce that their Base Rate is reduced from 12.50% to 11.50% per annum with effect from the 19th March, 1986 until further notice.

All facilities (including regulated consumer credit agreements) with a rate linked to Courtts Base Rate will be varied accordingly.

The Deposit Rates on monies subject to seven days' notice of withdrawal are as follows:-

7.75% per annum Gross*
5.625% per annum Net (the Gross Equivalent of which is 8.03% per annum to a basic rate tax payer).

Rates are subject to variation and interest is paid half-yearly in June and December.

*Not ordinarily available to individuals who are UK residents.
440 Strand, London, WC2R 0QS

Fox Television Stations, Inc.

a subsidiary of

The News Corporation Limited

has purchased

WNEW-TV	New York, New York
KTTV	Los Angeles, California
WFLD-TV	Chicago, Illinois
WTIG	Washington, D.C.
KRLD-TV	Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
KRIV-TV	Houston, Texas

from

Metromedia Broadcasting Corporation

The undersigned acted as financial advisor to The News Corporation Limited.

ALLEN & COMPANY
INCORPORATED

March 1986

Standard Chartered

Base Rate

On and after 19th March, 1986 Standard Chartered Bank's Base Rate for lending is being decreased from 12.50% to 11.50%.

Deposit Rates are	Gross Interest	Net Interest
7 days' notice	8.00%	5.98%
21 days' notice	9.00%	6.73%

Interest paid half-yearly

Standard Chartered Bank

Head Office 38 Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4DE
Tel: 01-280 7500 Telex 885951



Clydesdale Bank PLC

BASE RATE

Clydesdale Bank PLC announces that with effect from 20th March 1986 its Base Rate for lending is being reduced from 12½% to 11½% per annum.

Handwritten note: *Handwritten text*

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy these securities.
The offer is made only by the Prospectus.



1,148,000 Shares

Fox Television Stations, Inc.

Increasing Rate Exchangeable Guaranteed Preferred Stock
Guaranteed by The News Corporation Limited and News America Holdings Incorporated

Price \$1,000 a Share

Copies of the Prospectus are obtainable in any State from the undersigned and such other dealers as may lawfully offer these securities in such State.

Drexel Burnham Lambert
INCORPORATED

ALLEN & COMPANY
INCORPORATED

February 28, 1986

Metromedia Broadcasting Corporation

has sold

WNEW-TV	New York, New York
KITV	Los Angeles, California
WFLD-TV	Chicago, Illinois
WTTG	Washington, D.C.
KRLD-TV	Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas
KRIV-TV	Houston, Texas

to

Fox Television Stations, Inc.
a subsidiary of
The News Corporation Limited

The undersigned initiated this transaction and acted as financial advisor to Metromedia Broadcasting Corporation and The News Corporation Limited.

Drexel Burnham Lambert
INCORPORATED

March 1986

This announcement appears as a matter of record only.

Cash and/or shares of

Fox Television Stations, Inc.
Increasing Rate Exchangeable Guaranteed Preferred Stock
Guaranteed by The News Corporation Limited and News America Holdings Incorporated

exchanged for

Metromedia Broadcasting Corporation
\$960,000,000

Series 1 Zero Coupon Senior Notes due December 1, 1988
Series 2 Zero Coupon Senior Notes due December 1, 1989
Series 3 Zero Coupon Senior Notes due December 1, 1990
Series 4 Zero Coupon Senior Notes due December 1, 1991
Series 5 Zero Coupon Senior Notes due December 1, 1992
Series 6 Zero Coupon Senior Notes due December 1, 1993

\$954,276,000 Tendered
99% of the Class

\$335,000,000

Senior Exchangeable Variable Rate Debentures
due December 1, 1996

\$332,992,000 Tendered
99% of the Class

\$225,000,000

15% Senior Subordinated Debentures
due December 1, 1999

\$198,260,000 Tendered
88% of the Class

\$400,000,000

Adjustable Rate Participating Subordinated Debentures
due December 1, 2002

\$370,917,000 Tendered
93% of the Class

The undersigned acted as Dealer Managers for this Exchange Offer.

Drexel Burnham Lambert
INCORPORATED

ALLEN & COMPANY
INCORPORATED

March 1986

National Westminster Bank PLC
Base Rate
BASE RATE

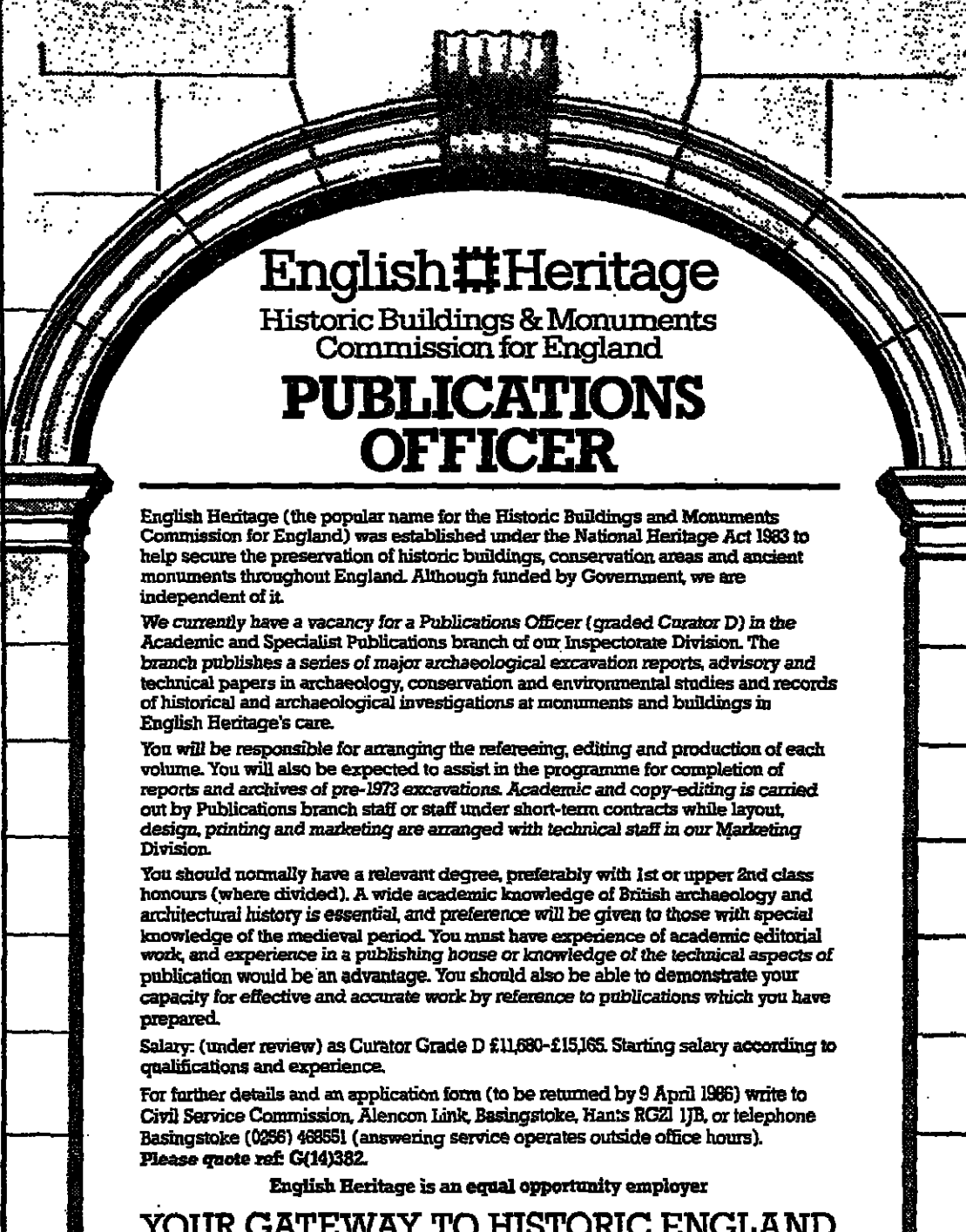
GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



English Heritage

Historic Buildings & Monuments Commission for England

PUBLICATIONS OFFICER

English Heritage (the popular name for the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England) was established under the National Heritage Act 1983 to help secure the preservation of historic buildings, conservation areas and ancient monuments throughout England. Although funded by Government, we are independent of it.

We currently have a vacancy for a Publications Officer (graded Curator D) in the Academic and Specialist Publications branch of our Inspection Division. The branch publishes a series of major archaeological excavation reports, advisory and technical papers in archaeology, conservation and environmental studies and records of historical and archaeological investigations at monuments and buildings in English Heritage's care.

You will be responsible for arranging the refereeing, editing and production of each volume. You will also be expected to assist in the programme for completion of reports and archives of pre-1973 excavations. Academic and copy-editing is carried out by Publications branch staff or staff under short-term contracts while layout, design, printing and marketing are arranged with technical staff in our Marketing Division.

You should normally have a relevant degree, preferably with 1st or upper 2nd class honours (where divided). A wide academic knowledge of British archaeology and architectural history is essential, and preference will be given to those with special knowledge of the medieval period. You must have experience of academic editorial work, and experience in a publishing house or knowledge of the technical aspects of publication would be an advantage. You should also be able to demonstrate your capacity for effective and accurate work by reference to publications which you have prepared.

Salary: (under review) as Curator Grade D £11,680-£15,165. Starting salary according to qualifications and experience.

For further details and an application form (to be returned by 9 April 1986) write to Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 1JB, or telephone Basingstoke (0286) 488551 (answering service operates outside office hours). Please quote ref: G(14)382.

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Tel: Peter Cole on 01-404-5766 or write to him at Chase de Vere (Investments Ltd) 63 Lincoln's Inn Fields London WC2A 3JX

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Circs £15,000

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Please write with full details to: Richard Slater, Whitehead Mann Limited, 44 Welbeck Street, London W1M 7HF, telephone 01-935 3978.

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PERSONNEL OFFICER: A vacancy exists for a graduate of A level standard with 1st A. A highly professional person with experience of recruitment and personnel administration for a major or minor company. Call 01-493 8623. Job Vacancies Limited (the Company) 47 New Bond Street, London, W1.

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MANAGEMENT INFORMATION CONSULTANCY

Initial Earnings
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London

As a newly qualified Accountant you want to guide the business planning and related information systems decisions of major organisations.

You want the prospect of total involvement from strategic business and information planning studies to systems design and installation.

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HORIZONS

A guide to career development

Changing face of diplomacy

Queen Victoria's representative in Bolivia once declined to attend a local celebration. In revenge he was tied facing backwards on a donkey and paraded around the main square in La Paz. Diplomatic relations were severed and remained so for several generations.

Foreign Office diplomacy is still concerned with political relations with the rest of the world but it covers all other aspects of modern government business. This ranges from export promotion and technical cooperation to the supply of food, energy and raw materials, to the environment, telecommunications and space.

The Foreign Office continues to represent the interest of individual British citizens. Ultimately it is responsible for seeing that British and the British Government are properly represented abroad on every topic that affects the British people - a very wide-ranging brief indeed.

There are about 200 missions (embassies, high commissions and smaller posts) covering 164 countries. In all there are 6,718 UK-based staff (as opposed to staff recruited locally overseas). About 4,700 are posted abroad at any one time, only 1,600 of whom are entitled to diplomatic status. There has been a 17.4 per cent decrease in staff since 1968 with a decrease of 5 per cent forecast up until 1988.

Ann Grant is head of the recruitment section. She is positive about the kind of

There is no one kind of person that is recruited by the Diplomatic Service.

Corinne Julius examines the skills needed to represent Britain abroad today

All executive officers must be prepared to do some routine jobs, with the expectation of ultimately reaching Consular level. An executive officer would expect to become First Secretary around the age of 39 and an administrative officer at 29.

There are now competitions to enable executive officers to transfer to administrative grades. As a small service, working in small units, bright candidates are rarely left to moulder. Last year competition was fiercest at executive level. This was due at least in part to the advice to women by careers' advisors to apply at this level.

There are good opportunities for women who should aim high. They can today work effectively in the Diplomatic Service in almost any country. There is no discrimination, nor is there special assistance, although there is good maternity leave provision and an option to take special unpaid leave.

There is no one typical career pattern, but Ann Grant's career gives a flavour of life in the Diplomatic Service. She joined the first stream in 1971 having studied international relations at Sussex University.

Her first job was as the desk officer for the Philippines. For two years she was responsible for co-ordinating information on the country, dealing with visitors, correspondence and the press.

Unlike the French and the Americans who have diplomatic colleges, in Britain it is a matter of on the job training. This is supplemented by three month core training. For example, on drafting and economics and three months on intensive French, German or Spanish.

At this point officers are assessed for hard language training. Fifty per cent of the intake is siphoned off for between nine and 24 months training, for example, in Japanese or Russian. Ann Grant did six months Bengali before becoming a Third Secretary political in Calcutta. The most junior of 12 diplomats.

Her job was to monitor the political situation in North-East India. But she ended up doing a little of everything, and set about maximizing her contacts in the

community. By getting to know, for example, the views of students at the university which were somewhat different from those of the government. It meant being able to round up "the right kind" of people to meet a "Tony Benn" or a "Norman Tebbit".

"You have access, but there are constraints", she says. "You must be aware of the damage you can do. For example, your need to get to know a wide spread of people outside the diplomatic community can mean that you risk being thought a spy."

After two-and-a-half years, she returned to the UK and somewhat unusually spent four years on secondment at the Department of Energy. This was followed by two years in the news department as a "spokesman" responsible for East European and then Middle Eastern affairs.

At 32, Ann Grant found herself as First Secretary and Head of Chancery in Mozambique. In the absence of her ambassador, she was responsible for reporting on the political situation. She found her background in international relations and African studies helpful in establishing good relations with government officials who viewed Britain as a colonial power.

In 1984, she returned to the UK as head of recruitment section. She expects to remain for here another year and aspires to promotion to councillor in the next few years.

The need is for diplomats to achieve aims by negotiation

Between the ages of 30 to 40, administrative officers spend a considerable time in the UK. After that they would expect the majority of their postings to be abroad, with a move every three to four years. In all, two-thirds of diplomatic service is likely to be overseas.

This mobility, while offering considerable variety and opportunity for promotion, can cause problems for families. It is unusual for spouses to be able to follow a career abroad, particularly in Third World countries.

As Britain's status changes her will can no longer be imposed, and increasingly the need is for diplomats able to achieve aims by negotiation and co-operation.

If you think you have the talent and stamina you can obtain further information from the Recruitment Section Personnel Policy Department, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, 3 Central Buildings, Matthew Parker Street, London SW1H 9NL, tel:01-233 5244. Information on recruitment schemes may be obtained from the Civil Service Commission, Alencon Link, Basingstoke, Hampshire RG 21 1JB.

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This US international bank seeks a salesperson to market multi-currency securities to UK institutional clients. Ideally candidates should be economics graduates with two years' experience within a corporate treasury department.

Financial Futures

A substantial US Broking house, requires a high calibre salesperson to join its existing team. Candidates should be familiar with all major US and UK financial futures contracts.

A major US Bank is seeking a young dynamic marketing professional to develop its institutional business. The successful applicant must have extensive knowledge of financial futures and options.

Stockbroking

This highly prestigious UK firm wishes to appoint an executive to market US equities to UK institutions. With two years' experience, candidates should ideally be NYSE Series 7 registered.

A leading US brokerage has a requirement for specialists in traded options. Applications are invited from those with at least one year's exposure with a reputable house.

For further information please telephone 01-481 3188 in complete confidence.

CHARTERHOUSE APPOINTMENTS

EUROPE HOUSE - WORLD TRADE CENTRE - LONDON E1 6AN - 01-481 3188

North American Banking

Our fast-growing and profitable North American Banking Department seeks executives to work on and help develop our North American business.

The ideal candidate will be:-

- Mid to late twenties
• Academically well qualified
• Innovative
• Self reliant

Candidates should have a good grounding in credit and a knowledge of general banking services. In addition experience in specialised banking products, such as Asset Based Lending, Leveraged Buy Outs, Real Estate Finance, Bond Enhancement Programmes and Interest Rate Swaps would be of value.

Successful candidates will work in an environment which encourages flexibility and an individual approach. There will be opportunities for travel and the possibility of a posting to one of our four U.S. offices.

Candidates should apply with full Curriculum Vitae to: Hanover Partners Limited, Box D57, The Times, R.O. Box 484, Virginia Street, London E1 9BL.

Kleinwort Benson

Tax Specialists

Legal and Accountancy Professions

The broad base of our recruitment operations enables us to offer the widest possible range of opportunities to tax specialists.

Our clients include firms of accountants and solicitors, financial institutions and public and private companies, both in London and in the provinces.

We are experiencing an increase in demand at all levels for high calibre solicitors, ACAs, and Inland Revenue Inspectors wishing to optimise their career potential. Prospects exist to partnership level.

If you would like to find out more about the positions we can offer please call Laurence Simons (Legal Profession) or Mark Brewer (Accountancy Profession) on 01-831 2000 (01-485 1345 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Michael Page Partnership (UK), 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH. Strictest confidentiality assured.



Michael Page Partnership

International Recruitment Consultants London Windsor Bristol Birmingham Manchester Leeds Glasgow Brussels New York Sydney A member of the Addison Page PLC group

Newly Qualified A.C.A.'s Merchant Banking & Investment Banking

Merchant Banking - Corporate Finance c£17,500 + benefits

Many of the U.K.'s leading Accepting Houses require recently qualified Chartered Accountants to join their established and highly profitable corporate finance departments. The successful applicants will work in highly demanding environments being involved, at an early stage, with acquisition and merger studies, share floatations, corporate advice etc. The benefits and promotional prospects offered, combine to present a highly attractive opportunity for the selected applicants.

Investment Bank - International Corporate Finance c£18,000 + benefits

Our client, a major force in British Banking, seeks a recently qualified accountant to work in the corporate finance department working on cross border mergers and acquisitions. The successful applicant should be prepared to travel extensively throughout the world particularly in the U.S.A. and Europe.

Interested applicants should contact Victoria Ward Kretzick on 01-404 5751 at Michael Page City, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH.

International Capital Markets to £25,000 + benefits

We are acting for a major U.S. investment bank currently expanding its capital markets activities. Opportunities exist for newly qualified A.C.A.'s to join highly specialised teams marketing, negotiating and structuring swaps and other capital markets transactions. Candidates, aged 24-28, will have strong interpersonal skills and be highly self-motivated.

International Project Finance to £20,000 + benefits

A prime U.K. merchant bank seeks a recently qualified chartered accountant for its International Division. The successful applicant will be involved in identifying, structuring and advising on methods of funding for major worldwide projects. Excellent opportunity for those with the commitment and ability to succeed.

Interested applicants should contact Andrew Stewart on 01-404 5751 at Michael Page City, 39-41 Parker Street, London WC2B 5LH.

Michael Page City

International Recruitment Consultants - London Brussels New York Sydney A member of the Addison Page PLC group

Jonathan Wren

Banking Appointments

We are seeking ambitious, self motivated graduate ACA's, aged 25-32 years for vacancies within merchant and international city based banks for the following areas.

Senior Accounting/Financial Control £20-£37,000 (Banking experience essential).

UK & International Corporate Tax £30-£35,000 (Creative financial skills a pre-requisite).

Audit v. neg £20-£35,000 (Major bank experience essential).

For the above 3 vacancies contact Bryan Sales or Brian Gooch.

Operations Managers £20-£35,000

Jonathan Wren is currently handling a number of senior operational positions on behalf of its major clients. We would like to hear from candidates with extensive relevant experience, preferably gained with London based international banks, ideally covering foreign exchange, accounts, loans, etc.

Contact David Williams or Anne Griggs.

Senior Credit Analyst £18-£25,000

Successful international bank requires a highly experienced banker with a comprehensive knowledge of credit appraisal. Age range 28-35 years. The appointee will be required to reorganise an active department of six analysts.

Junior Credit Analyst £10-£15,000

A large European bank seeks an experienced Credit Analyst with experience gained within a banking environment. Ideally aged between 21-25 years, the successful applicant will assist marketing officers in business assessment.

For the above 2 vacancies contact Richard Meredith or Trevor Williams. All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

Jonathan Wren Recruitment Consultants 170 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4LX. Tel: 01-623 1266

Our client is a successful and expanding small practice in North London. They are currently seeking to fill the following key positions:-

Tax Consultant Full Time/Part Time c£20,000 + car

ACCA/ACA/ATI qualified. Experience of solving complex corporate taxation problems is essential. The applicant should preferably have been trained in a large Taxation Department and possibly hold a key position in that department. You will establish Taxation Department within practice. Consideration will be given to an applicant working 2-3 days/week on a consultancy basis. Partnership prospects exist.

Audit Managers (x2) c£20,000 + car

Ambitious ACCA/ACA trained individuals preferably with a large Company background. Partnership prospects within 3 years. Reporting direct to Partners.

Audit Seniors (x2) c£12,000

Qualified, time-barred or part qualified - 3-4 years audit experience is essential. Promotion prospects excellent.



Please telephone Jonathan Grantham quoting reference JG0142.

EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT

166 Bishopsgate, London EC2H 4LX. 01-274 5851 (10 lines)

"The art of taxation is so to pluck the goose that the maximum number of feathers are obtained with the minimum amount of hissing."

Jean Colbert 1665

Help wanted to feather nests

up to £30,000

Tax Specialists

Colbert's statement still rings true today, thus there is a great demand for tax specialists who can keep the plucking to a minimum.

If you have good specialist tax knowledge (personal or corporate), your services will be in high demand. But this pleasant situation presents problems. You need to ensure that a move will enhance your experience, enable career development and bring appreciation for your personal style.

Candidates vary in their skills, objectives and personalities. Our philosophy as recruitment specialists is to view every candidate as an individual. We take time to find out about your specific requirements and to give free and unbiased career advice.

We will be pleased to tell you about the spectrum of appointments we are handling and their suitability for you. They range across both the profession and commerce and are mainly in the £9000-£20,000 salary bracket. They will be of interest to those who have recently made the decision to specialise or those whose tax careers are already developing well.

An informal career discussion can be arranged by simply phoning Paul Carrasco ACA or Carrie Andrew ACA on 01-242 6633 or send us brief details of your career to date at Macmillan Davies, Kingsbourne House, 229/231 High Holborn, London WC1V 7DA.

Macmillan Davies FINANCE & ACCOUNTANCY



LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

Secretaries - Marketing Department West London

Wang (UK) Limited is a leading supplier of office automation and data processing equipment. Keeping pace with ever-changing technology and maintaining a high level of public awareness is the role of our Marketing Communications Department where we now have two vacancies for Secretaries.

Secretary to Marketing Communications Manager - c.£9k

To provide top-level secretarial support and liaise with external suppliers in areas of advertising, media and wide-ranging requests from other parts of the company. You will also assist in the distribution of company literature and press releases and ensure stocks of publicity material are adequately maintained.

Departmental Secretary - Marketing Communications - c.£8k

To provide secretarial support for the department and assume responsibility for the maintenance of departmental systems including Project Authorisation Requests and Purchase Orders. Additional duties include assisting at conferences, media events and similar.

Both positions require excellent secretarial and communication skills combined with a professional and enthusiastic approach to work. Operating knowledge of WP is desirable although full training will be provided.

Competitive salaries are offered together with excellent large company benefits. Please write with full career details to Pam Segal, Wang (UK) Limited, Wang House, 661 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex TW7 4EH, or telephone 01-847 1954 (24-hour service) for an application form.



Medical Secretary Near Waterloo

Would you like to work in an interesting and different environment, where your excellent medical secretarial skills will be put to rewarding use? The British Technology Group (BTG) encourages worthwhile investments in the UK and provides practical financial help for their future development.

We need someone to work for 2 executives involved in the medical and drug fields. It is a fast moving environment and you will need excellent shorthand and typing skills and the ability to cope under pressure. You must also have word processing experience.

The offices are modern, air conditioned and convenient for London Br and Waterloo Stations. The salary will be very competitive and there is a subsidised restaurant.

Interested? If you are, please forward your curriculum vitae for my attention or, alternatively, telephone me on 01-403 6666 to discuss the position further.

Miss E Pitts
BRITISH TECHNOLOGY GROUP

AUSTIN REED of Regent Street EXPERIENCED SECRETARY

The Group Managing Director is seeking a secretary who is interested in a career. The successful applicant will have a pleasant personality and appropriate experience. Good typing and shorthand speeds are essential. In return, we offer an excellent starting salary and company benefits.

Write immediately, including c.v. to:
D.J. Gale, Personnel Director
AUSTIN REED LIMITED,
103/113 Regent St., London, W1A 2AJ

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCE has a vacancy for an experienced Secretary to deal with applications for admission to the Department's postgraduate courses and to act as Secretary to the Director of the one year MSc course. The post will also include responsibility for keeping confidential student records and dealing with telephone and personal enquiries from prospective students. Good shorthand and typing required. Must be willing to use word processor for which training will be given if required. Pleasant working conditions, sporting facilities available and generous holidays. Salary in range £6993-£2092 including London Weighting according to age and experience.

Applications in writing to the Assistant Director (from whom further details can be obtained) Miss A E Benjamin, Department of Management Science, Imperial College, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2BX.

LEGAL AUDIO SECRETARIES

We are a small and friendly firm of commercial lawyers situated near Fenchurch Street. We need 3 legal secretaries urgently and are willing to pay a five figure sum for the right people. Applicants should have good speeds and be willing to work hard. Wang WP is used exclusively but full training will be given to applicants who are otherwise well suited. If you are interested please phone Linda on 481 1000. No agencies please.

PA/ADMINISTRATOR

Required for small independent wine merchant. French, sales and admin skills needed as well as an interest in wine and food, the owner and his dog! A challenging job for a practical, positive self-motivated person. Please write with C.V. to: Peter Puggson, 82 Wandsworth Bridge Road, London SW6 2TF.

DESIGN/MARKETING

Rapidly expanding agency. Excellent opportunity for PA/Sec who is looking for challenge, scope and responsibility. Assisting newly appointed MD of large multi-national group with new projects. Good typing and positive attitude essential. Please write to: Ring Lesley Vipond 01 242 0343.

MAGAZINE WORLD £10,000 PER ANNUM
Unusually interesting opportunity for PA/Sec who is looking for challenge, scope and responsibility. Assisting newly appointed MD of large multi-national group with new projects. Good typing and positive attitude essential. Please write to: Ring Lesley Vipond 01 242 0343.

THE LAW SOCIETY PERSONAL ASSISTANT c.£8,000 pa (July Review)

The Law Society, the professional association of solicitors in England and Wales, requires an experienced audio secretary to work for the senior solicitor dealing with the Remuneration Committee and other matters.

Duties include audio typing of general correspondence and reports, organising committee papers, arranging meetings, and full secretarial support in a range of other tasks.

Applicants should have 50 wpm typing and 80 wpm shorthand, possess English 'O' level or equivalent and either be experienced on a Wang Word Processor or be willing to be trained.

Typed applications should be addressed to the Personnel Officer, The Law Society, 113 Chancery Lane, LONDON WC2A 1PL.

(NO AGENCIES)

Private Secretary / Personal Assistant WATFORD

Salary around £9,325 (negotiable)

required to work with Chief Executive of public water supply Company. Must demonstrate ability for fast and accurate shorthand/typing and extensive experience of personal secretarial assistance at high level. Familiarity with modern office technology highly desirable.

Reliability, together with capability of working under pressure when required is essential, as is ability to work competently on own initiative.

Full details of experience, qualifications, age and present salary should be sent by 27th March 1986 in confidence to the Personnel Officer,

The Colne Valley Water Company
The Colne Valley Water Company
The Colne Valley Water Company

SECRETARY 35+

£9,000 Package + Perks

International Company requires a well organized, dedicated secretary to keep their Directors and general office in order. You will be responsible for all office administration, will be dealing with top international clients and will be required to become totally involved in the business development. In return you are offered a highly interesting and stimulating career with excellent future prospects, an early salary increase plus commensurate perks. Please apply to Gaye Neville on 486 6717 Alfred Marks Recruitment Consultants.

COMPETENT, EFFICIENT SECRETARY REQUIRED

for busy Chelsea rentals agency. Must be numerate - good accurate shorthand. Good salary. Please contact Catherine: 01-351 2383

MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS c.£10,000 + Bonus

Secretary/PA to joint MD's, must be presentable, well organized, (22-35) with excellent English/audio typing and enjoy variety in a fast moving, friendly atmosphere. Write with CV to Mrs Luford, BML 9 Kingsway, London WC2B 6XF.

CITY WISE P.A. to £12,000++

Our client, a small group of venture capital specialists based in ECA, is currently involved in an exciting variety of projects. Working primarily for the Chairman and using to the full your own experience (prev. in Corp. Finance) and your sec. skills (80/60 + WP), your job will encompass running the office, involving yourself on the breaking side and dealing with clients. You should be a first-class administrator with a flair for learning, fast and working with complete accuracy. Languages useful, particularly French. Hours can be 9.30 - 6.30. Age 25+. Please call:

588 3535
Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants
18 Eldon Street EC2

RECEPTIONIST £9,000 + Bonus

A leading firm of stockbrokers near Moorgate requires a well presented, young and enthusiastic Receptionist. You will greet visitors in a responsible way for the booking of meetings and dining rooms, and deal with incoming calls. Good audio typing (80/60) is essential as you will also help with the when necessary. Please call:

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Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants
18 Eldon Street EC2

Mayfair Stealth £10,000 + Benefits

This international executive search company based in Mayfair needs a PA/Secretary of 'A' level calibre with an agile and retentive memory to assist an associate.

Social confidence and charm in dealing with clients and high quality candidates face to face and on the telephone are prerequisites of the job and essential also to fit in with the existing staff of this robust and professional company.

Age 25 - 32
Speeds 100/60 + audio
Telephone 629 9686
West End Office
ANGELA MORTIMER

FLAIR FOR FRENCH £12,000

A top-flight bilingual PA who is used to working on their own initiative is needed by an American executive who runs the UK office of a Geneva based company. Working in the field of investment with mostly private clients he needs someone who is interested in becoming fully involved and can help develop the marketing side of the business. You should be well-educated, socially confident and have excellent secretarial skills (100/60).

Age 25-35
629 9686
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MARVIC TEXTILES LTD. Consultants

We are looking for a bright young person to promote our luxury furnishing materials on a full time basis within the Furnishing Fabrics Department at Harrods, Knightsbridge.

A good knowledge of finishing textiles and previous experience of selling is preferable though not essential.

This job enjoys the benefits of employment by a small successful and progressive company yet within our finest retail department store and maybe looked upon as an excellent early career opportunity.

Competitive salary and bonuses available. Please apply in writing with full CV to: Suzanne Parry, Marvic Textiles Ltd, 3 West Point Trading Estate, Alliance Road, London W3 0RA.

PRESTIGIOUS ANTIQUES SHOP, FINLICO ROAD

Urgently requires Sec/Assistant. Experience essential. Knowledge of Art/Wine preferred. Salary negotiable.

Tel: 01-730 9839

North Herts College SENIOR LECTURER SECRETARIAL STUDIES

£11,958 - £14,048
0462 32361

FINANCIAL SERVICES 29,000-

PA/Secretary wanted in SW1 to assist young Executive in Administration and New Business Development. Previous sales background would be preferable. Quality of work essential. Excellent salary and benefits. The ideal candidate will find this an ideal challenge for a brand new career.

01-629 9323
SHEILA CHILDS
RECRUITMENT

PA/SECRETARY Age 24 - 30

To M.D. of International Sports Management Firm c. £9,000

We are the country's leading Recruitment Consultants and are looking for a highly motivated and energetic PA/Secretary to join our team. The ideal candidate will be a first class administrator with a flair for learning, fast and working with complete accuracy. Languages useful, particularly French. Hours can be 9.30 - 6.30. Age 25+. Please call:

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Crone Corkill
Recruitment Consultants
18 Eldon Street EC2

SEARCH FOR SUCCESS to £10,000

The Director of a highly professional executive search group in the West End needs a bright, intelligent secretary with a flexible approach and a sense of humour. As part of the busy, friendly team, you attend progress meetings, liaise with clients and candidates, and assist with the general administration in addition to your secretarial duties. If you are a first class administrator with a flair for learning, fast and working with complete accuracy. Languages useful, particularly French. Hours can be 9.30 - 6.30. Age 25+. Please call:

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18 Eldon Street EC2

DESIGN/MARKETING

Rapidly expanding agency, also part of Holborn. Requires a PA/Secretary with a flair for learning, fast and working with complete accuracy. Languages useful, particularly French. Hours can be 9.30 - 6.30. Age 25+. Please call:

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£12,000

An exceptional high calibre personal assistant with good skills and a stylish manner is needed to work alongside a part-time Director of a leading international group with multi-national worldwide offices. A forward thinking with executive level experience will find this an ideal challenge for a brand new career.

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WINDY HILL, Edin. Crown, SW10. Ground, large 3 bed flat, 4th floor. Lift, WC, German kitchen, £130,000. Tel: 01-836 9300

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MR. DUNNELL, Victorian, 4 room flat, 4th floor, lift, WC, German kitchen, £130,000. Tel: 01-836 9300

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QUEEN'S GATE TW20. 3 room flat, 4th floor, lift, WC, German kitchen, £130,000. Tel: 01-836 9300

RENTALS

TUNBRIDGE WELLS:

Five residential buildings, 45 houses plus 34 flats. For sale by Tender (closing date 15th May, 1986). Parton, High Street, Sevenoaks. Tel: 01-730 9839

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REQUIREMENT OF ENGLISH. The Institute requires an assistant to carry out the day to day administrative and clerical duties connected with the Institute's operations. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day to day administration of the Institute and will be required to handle correspondence and to assist in the preparation of reports and documents. The successful candidate will be required to handle correspondence and to assist in the preparation of reports and documents. The successful candidate will be required to handle correspondence and to assist in the preparation of reports and documents.

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CHALLENGE FOR foreign students. 01-294 1574 or 01-454 9717

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London EC4N 3DF
Tel: 01-950 9900

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Large 3 bed house, 4th floor, lift, WC, German kitchen, £130,000. Tel: 01-836 9300

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Between Hyde Park and Harrods, beautifully refurbished, 3 bed, 2 bath flat, lift, WC, German kitchen, £130,000. Tel: 01-836 9300

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Enchanting interior designed Chelsea house. 3 double, 1 single bedrm, study, 2 reception rms., 1 bathrm, 1 shower, 1 cloak., modern kit. Roof terrace. £600 per week. CHELSEA OFFICE: 01-589 5211.

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An attractive two bedroom penthouse flat situated on the top floor, (11th) Reception, french windows onto 20ft. Roof terrace, kit, 2 bedrms, bathrm. Available now on long Company let. £215 per week. PIMLICO OFFICE: 01-834 9998.

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GOLF
On trial among world's elite

From John Ballantine
New Orleans

Severiano Ballesteros starts the defence of his New Orleans Open title today on the par-72 Lakewood course.

Jack Nicklaus, Tom Watson, Bernhard Langer, Greg Norman, Hal Sutton and Calvin Peete compete in what will be Ballesteros's sole tournament appearance in 1986 on this tour.

Having promised to play, why did Ballesteros renege? It seems that he just could not bring himself to play in a country he has never enjoyed being in for longer than two or three weeks, so he took a calculated chance that the American circuit needed him more than he needed it.

Ballesteros answered in some detail the "evidence" just issued by the commissioner, Deane Beman, to prove that the golfer was, technically, in the wrong.

"Before I won at Greensboro in 1978 you had to go the qualifying school to get your card," Ballesteros said. "I was not a winner of a big championship, a five-year exemption, allowing him to play whenever he pleased."

"People like Arnold Palmer made the tour, and I was just too much for me to come over here and spend so much time," he said. "There were too many trips across the Atlantic."

"I am not one of them," he said firmly. "Beman has all the power and the players just work for him. It really should be the opposite. Beman should work for the players."

SKIING: SWEDISH VETERAN WINS AGAIN AT LAKE PLACID

In a flash: Stenmark races down the course en route to a win in the giant slalom

Lake Placid (Reuter) - Ingemar Stenmark, of Sweden, beat Hubert Strolz, of Austria, on Tuesday to win a World Cup giant slalom event at Whiteface Mountain, the site of his two Olympic victories in 1980.

Stenmark's time of 2:40.90 for two runs was good enough to hold off a challenge by Strolz, who had the third best time of the second run and finished with a combined time of 2:40.94.

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Salmon lairds surface again with a feudal smile

By Conrad Voss Bark

It was landlord-bashing day in the House of Commons when the Salmon Bill came up for the second reading debate and what a splendid time was had by all.

The Bill aims at stopping the salmon market in a salmon by licensing salmon dealers and making some minor reforms in the Scottish district fishery boards.

That was enough for the Scottish left-wingers. They scolded the Bill, the Scottish Nationalist MP, Donald Stewart, an admirable man

from the Western Isles, who complained that though the Bill did certain things it did not deal with the fundamental issues of the feudal system.

That system, Mr Stewart explained to those unacquainted with the history of the Scottish private landlords in claim the ownership of wild fish. The way

to deal with that, Labour's Norman Buchan said, is - I may quote - "to take the waters under community control and community direction in the interests of the community."

Another Labour member, John Home Robertson, who is a farmer on the banks of the Tweed, explained that the community included genuine representatives of all the people, including local councillors.

A motion was tabled to accept a Bill which suffered from the fatal flaw that it was a Scottish landlords' Bill and

therefore extended their powers and privileges and made no adequate provision for anglers.

Curiously enough, it was left to Labour members who were taken with the fishermen, such as Roy Manton, to point out that it was the anglers themselves who had been campaigning for the Bill.

With the Labour party happily split, the left-wingers failed to amend the Bill by 43 votes against 125 and the Commons went home knowing that for the time being at least the Scottish landlords are safe.

Law Report March 20 1986

Regina v Newham Juvenile Court, Ex parte F

Before Lord Justice Stephen Brown and Mr Justice McCullough

[Judgment given March 13]

Where a juvenile is brought before a plea had been taken and summary trial or committal proceedings embarked upon, had no power to review and reverse the previous decision in the absence of a change of circumstances.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court accordingly granted an application for judicial review by a juvenile defendant in that summary trial or committal proceedings embarked upon, had no power to review and reverse the previous decision in the absence of a change of circumstances.

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Charging mode of juvenile's trial

Regina v Newham Juvenile Court, Ex parte F

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Surety not discharged by minor breach

National Westminster Bank v Riley

Before Lord Justice May and Sir George Waller

[Judgment given March 14]

A non-repudiatory breach of a principal contract between debtor and creditor would not discharge a surety if the principal failed to pay the debt in full.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment, allowing the appeal of the National Westminster Bank plc, from an order of Sir Nell Lawson, who sitting as a judge of the High Court on October 10, 1984, had dismissed its appeal from a decision of Master Crighton to set aside a default judgment against the defendant, Mr John Wilton

Riley, and to give him unconditional leave to defend the plaintiff's action under a contract of guarantee whereby he had guaranteed the debts of his company, which had gone into liquidation.

Mr Mark Potter, QC and Mr John E. Bay, QC, appeared for the plaintiff, Mr Gerald Godfrey, QC and Mr James Bonney for the defendant.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that the judge, having been referred to The Vanasse Trust Co Ltd v Morgan (unreported, April 2, 1976), had concluded that it was arguable that the non-repudiatory breach by the bank of its agreement with the company (failing to pay a direct debit on its overdraft account) had discharged the defendant's liability as guarantor.

Although part of Lord Justice Browne's judgment - in Vanasse - could be read that

plaintiff's breach of its obligation to the company had discharged him from his obligation.

Arthritis: Seriously affects over 6 million people in the UK

These children have to be taught how to speak. They need special teachers, special attention and special equipment. Please give us the means to help and to see that they are not forgotten by Government, by Education, by Local Authorities

THE ARTHRITIS AND RHEUMATISM COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH

Cancer Relief Macmillan fund

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FOOTBALL: A SURPRISE AT HOME FOLLOWS A SURPRISE ABROAD

Middlesbrough appoint Rioch as new manager

Middlesbrough have appointed the former Scottish international captain, Bruce Rioch, as their manager. The club's chairman, Alf Duffield, said that Rioch has made an outstanding impression since he took over as first team coach two months ago...

Rioch played in all four divisions of the Football League with Luton Town, Aston Villa, Derby County and Everton and was later player-manager of Torquay United. Now 38, he joined Middlesbrough in January after coaching in Seattle.

Shreeve asks board to deny Roberts a move

Peter Shreeve will recommend that the Tottenham Hotspur board reject the unexpected transfer request submitted by Graham Roberts, their England defender...

Roberts was signed from Weymouth, a non-league club, for £30,000 in 1980 and has developed into the mainstay of the Tottenham defence.

PPA CERTIFIED DIVIDENDS. All dividends subject to reservation. All matches for March 15th. LITTLEWOODS POOLS, LIVERPOOL. THIS WEEK A RECORD SHARE-OUT £2,472,722 TO WINNERS EVERYWHERE!

VERNONS POOLS, LIVERPOOL. WINNERS EVERYWHERE THIS WEEK. PLUS 5 GOES A PENNY TREBLE CHANCE. £2 Million. FIVE GOES A PENNY TREBLE CHANCE 3 Dividends only - See Rule 9(f).

ZETTERS POOLS, LONDON EC1. THOUSANDS OF 'TOPS' £4,141 for 15p! Includes: TREBLE CHANCE POOL £25.10, 4 AWAYS £3.60, 23 PTS £0.80, 2 DIVIDENDS ONLY AS PER RULE 15.



The two faces of management: A woebegone Allison contemplates the end of a cigar and of his hopes in the Middle East after his dismissal as national manager in Kuwait; an ebullient Rioch (right) looks forward to the battle for second division survival after an encouraging offer by his club.

Blackpool face big obstacle

Blackpool's "sell up and move" survival plan has run into an obstacle. Councilors at a town hall meeting yesterday voted unanimously to accept a five-year freeze on the building of any more seaside superstores.

Random drug tests for World Cup

Mexico City (AP) - The Organizing Committee for the 1986 World Cup has indicated that players will undergo random tests which will be able to detect evidence of drug use from as long as six months before the tournament.

Provisional sum is considered

Bedfordshire County Council have agreed provisionally to give Luton £2 million in compensation for building a road through part of their ground. The controversial A505 Luton to Dunstable relief road has been discussed for a number of years by the two sides.

Armstrong goes third

Gerry Armstrong, the Northern Ireland international, said yesterday that he had signed for Chesterfield. He said he preferred first team football in the third division to reserve team football with West Bromwich Albion.

Armstrong goes third

Armstrong, aged 31, spent a month on loan with Chesterfield earlier this year. His signing did not go through in time for him to play against Plymouth last night, but he will be eligible for tomorrow's match at Doncaster.

Sterland peps Wednesday

Mel Sterland, Sheffield Wednesday's full back, scored a winning goal for the second time in four days to give his team a 1-0 victory over Leicester City on Tuesday and keep his side tucked in among the leading clubs in the race for the League championship.

RUGBY UNION

Honours even in penultimate duel

By Michael Stevenson. The penultimate meeting between these superb rugby schools before recognition transforms West Park into an establishment for 11- to 16-year-olds, ended in a draw yesterday with the hosts scoring a goal and a penalty to Cowley's three penalties.

New Boyle ban

Steve Boyle, Moseley's British Lions lock, who was suspended for a month after being sent off against Newcastle, has received an additional two-week ban from the North Midlands disciplinary committee.

Game is advancing in universities

Last week's Macclesfield, the Great Britain club, spent some time at Oxford University. However, not even the visit to the city of dreaming spires could fill Oxford to victory over Cambridge in the sixth annual University match.

RUGBY LEAGUE DIARY

played with zest and vigor and occasionally superb skills. The teams, as always, provided some lively hitting points and interesting conversions to the Hoop. Cambridge fielded the strongest team to take part in a university match, with Mehdi Mousavi playing at prop forward, while Oxford fielded the first players from Zhanabai to appear for a university game in England.

America's Cup will be focus of new yachting season

The British try a new tack

With the exception of a few hardy souls, mostly dinghy sailors and yachtsmen are still enjoying their close season. Whatever the dedicated few say to the contrary, sailing is not much fun until there is some warmth in the sun and the water. This usually means from May onwards, though club racing will begin in April or even March, as soon as British summertime makes the days more usable.

Another event for the adventurous

Another event for the adventurous, rather than the day racer, is the Royal Western Yacht Club's double-handed transatlantic race, sponsored by Carlsberg. This will start from Plymouth on June 8 and finish in Newport about a fortnight later. Around 100 boats will be taking part, ranging from the latest hi-tech multi-hulls to stock production cruisers.

CINEMAS

ACADEMY 1-437 2901. Academy Award Best Picture nominee. MANAGER'S CHOICE. PETER JACKSON'S THE FUGITIVE. THE FUGITIVE. THE FUGITIVE. THE FUGITIVE.

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL 625 8796/6338. The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra. ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 625 8796/6338. The Royal Philharmonic Orchestra.

EXHIBITIONS

BRITISH LIBRARY, 62 Russell Square, London WC1B 3PH. THE BRITISH LIBRARY. THE BRITISH LIBRARY.

ART GALLERIES

ALPINE GALLERY, 72 Grosvenor Street, London W1. ALPINE GALLERY. ALPINE GALLERY.

THEATRES

ROYAL COURT OF 720 1857. THE COURT OF 720 1857. THE COURT OF 720 1857.

THEATRES

ROYAL COURT OF 720 1857. THE COURT OF 720 1857. THE COURT OF 720 1857.

John Nicholls

SPORT

An English lesson from the two Rs

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent, Barbados

England had to score at 5.4 runs an over to win the third of the one-day internationals here yesterday. In 46 overs West Indies, after being put in, made 249 for seven in a wonderfully entertaining innings. Their first six batsmen made runs, with Richards and Richardson again providing

Scoreboard

Table with columns for batsmen and runs. Includes names like G G Greenidge, D L Haynes, R B Richardson, etc.

the highlight. As they uncorked a succession of flashing strokes they slapped each other's hands in mutual admiration. England took the field to enthusiastic applause from their host of supporters, who were treated to a splendid opening over from Botham, as good as anything he has bowled on the tour. In it he beat Greenidge twice. Thomas also started with a maiden.

Yet after four overs Greenidge and Haynes had scored 20, including three fours in Thomas's second, two by Haynes with unstoppable straight hits. The outfield was parched and lightning fast and the boundaries short. Of the world's Test grounds this one and Headingley are perhaps the fastest. They are of much the same size, too.

So the match was soon on the move with high-class batting against perfectly respect-

able English bowling. When drinks were taken after 15 overs West Indies were 60 for no wicket. In the first over afterwards Haynes chopped Foster into his stumps and in Foster's next over Greenidge was caught at the wicket.

There looked to be more than enough lift in the pitch for England's batsmen to care for, but not Richards and Richardson, who were soon playing glorious strokes and running daintily between the wickets. Greenidge was out in the eighteenth over and in the next 17 Richards and Richardson added 117.

Thomas came in for heavy front-foot punishment and when Gooch bowled (England were looking for 10 overs from him and Willey between them) it was more than he could do to contain two such dashing batsmen in this form.

The show reached a thrilling climax and conclusion in the

34th over, bowled by Emburey. From the first five balls Richards hit two fours and two sixes, both over extra cover. Off the last ball Foster at long off brilliantly held another high swinging drive that would also have carried for six. He pulled down the catch, two-handed, from away above his head.

In the fortieth over Richards was bowled by Foster, trying to hook, whereupon Dujon and Harper played scarcely less vividly than the two Rs. Two cover drives by Dujon off Emburey were of the most exotic kind, a back-foot six by Harper off Foster on to the top of the new Garfield Sobers pavilion at long on a freakish stroke. Lamb took a nice running catch on the extra cover boundary and there were four overs still unbowed when half-time was reached. England fielded well under pressure.

NZ destroyer Special mission

Dunedin (Reuter) - New Zealand defeated Australia by 29 runs in the first of a series of four one-day internationals here yesterday. Reprising to New Zealand's score of 186 for six in 50 overs, the tourists could muster only 157 before being dismissed in the 47th over.

Hadlee was the chief destroyer for New Zealand, claiming four for 15, while Martin Crowe, the part-time medium pace bowler, returned an economical two for 23 off 10 overs.

Faced with an accurate New Zealand attack and a slowish outfield, the Australians lost wickets regularly and were never on course to win.

The fall of Matthews reduced Australia to 124 for six in the 40th over, and almost immediately afterwards Hadlee bowled Marsh, the opener, who had scored a steady 35. A brief flourish from Waugh was the only

other sign of resistance as Australia collapsed.

Table with columns for batsmen and runs. Includes names like B A Edgar, K H Rutherford, J V Coney, etc.

Colombo (Reuter) - The Pakistan cricket board has sent a special official to Sri Lanka to investigate the dispute between Pakistan's team and Sri Lankan players, umpires and spectators. M. Ijaz Butt, a Pakistan cricket board member, said that he had been sent to Colombo after reports were received "about many things" in the past few days.

On Monday, the Pakistan cricketers asked the manager to abandon the rest of the tour, saying bad umpiring had led to a deterioration of relations between the teams, which had caused on-the-field incidents, threats and abuse. Pakistan, who won the first Test by an innings, lost the second on Tuesday by eight wickets. The third and final Test starts on Saturday.

DELHI (Reuter) - India's selectors have announced a party of 16 to tour England this summer, dropping five players from the side that lost

the last Test series in Australia.

New faces in the squad for England include Delhi's veteran hard-hitting opening batsman, Ramzan Lamba, and the 24-year-old Bombay wicketkeeper, Chandrakant Pandit. Sandeep Patil, an attacking middle-order batsman, the left-arm spinner, Maninder Singh, and the seam bowler, Manoj Prabhakar, have been recalled.

The five replace the batsman, Malhotra, the seam bowlers, Kulkarni and Rajinder Singh, the leg-spinner, Sivaramkrishnan, and the wicketkeeper, Kirmani, all dropped after the tour of Australia.

SQUAD FOR ENGLAND TOUR: Kapil Dev (capt), R J Shastri (vice-capt), S M Gavaskar, K Srikkanth, R Lamba, M Amarnath, M Azharuddin, D B Vengarkar, S M Patil, K More, C Pandit, C Sharma, M H Berry, M Prabhakar, Maninder Singh, S Yadav.



Martina Navratilova (above), displaying the full range of her talent in beating Terry Phelps 6-1, 6-2 in the first round of the Virginia Slims tournament. Miss

Navratilova, who is attempting to win her third successive Virginia Slims title, took 51 minutes to dispose of Phelps, winning 59 points to her opponent's

33. Navratilova, fresh from her latest triumph against her fiercest rival and close friend, Chris Lloyd, looked inflexible only once.

Grass is getting the big chop

The Grand Slam championships must be preceded by preparatory tournaments played on a similar surface. Consequently, it is no surprise to learn that the tennis associations of New South Wales and Queensland, reluctantly being a line drawn by the National and Victorian associations, are accepting the need to dig up the grass courts of Sydney and Brisbane before the 1987-88 Australian season.

The Lawn Tennis Association of Australia - "Lawn" must be a misnomer now - have decided that grass courts will not be installed at their National Tennis Centre in Melbourne. Work on the centre began four months later but Tony Peck, the LTAA media manager, said yesterday: "Allowances were made for difficulties during construction. The project manager assures us that there are no ecological risks and that they will be finished in time for the Australian championships of January, 1988."

In the meantime six different surfaces are being put down at a public facility in Melbourne. After severe tests, one will be chosen for the national centre and, logically, will also be installed at other state capitals. The Wimbledon chairman, "Buzzer" Hastingham, said yesterday: "In future the grand slam will be a very thorough test of a player, in that there will be

Closing the book on grass

four different surfaces on which to play. Anybody who can win all four will be a great champion.

All the grand slam championships except the French (which is not played on grass). The United States championships having decided grass after the 1974 tournament, are played on hard courts. After one more domestic season Australia will also close the book on grass.

There is no immediate threat to Wimbledon's traditional character. The climate's generous natural watering properties suit grass courts, and Wimbledon can afford the high cost of maintaining them in exemplary condition. Moreover, Wimbledon also has shale, and synthetic courts and consequently has no pressing need to convert the lawns to a surface that permits year-round use.

The passing years, however, could pose two awkward questions. How long will grass be a practicable surface for the preparatory tournaments, and how long will the leading players continue to regard championships contested on

Optimistic about the future

such an eccentric surface as the most important in the world? Geoff Brown, president of the Lawn Tennis Association, reminded me yesterday of the saying: there is nothing better than a good grass court and nothing worse than a bad one. He was optimistic, pointing out that Eastbourne Corporation were enthusiastic about the future of Devonshire Park, where grass court tennis was an attractive feature of the holiday programme.

Brown did, however, strike two cautionary notes. The worrying feature about the cost of pre-Wimbledon tournaments, he said, was not so much the maintenance of grass courts as the maintenance of sponsorship. "The cost of running these tournaments can be hair-raising and the LTA must make up any shortfall. There is no way we can back off from supporting these lead-in tournaments". His second point was that private clubs had to remain viable and, consequently, must charge rational fees and provide year-round playing facilities. "Players may prefer grass if they can get it," he said, "but you also need a very good alternative".

Grass courts will survive as a pleasant curiosity in the British Isles and in such scattered one-time colonial outposts as Australia, New Zealand, Asia, and Rhode Island. But the number and importance of such courts will continue to decline and, at the highest level of competition, Wimbledon and its supporting past will soon stand alone. When that happens, there may be more sadness than resentment in the old joke prevalent among shale-court specialists: "Grass is for cows and sheep. Not tennis players."

Rex Bellamy Tennis Correspondent

The cuckoo clocks in

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

The warmer weather is not the only early sign of spring, the first cuckoo being seen as well as heard yesterday, and in central London of all places. Zola Budd flew in from South Africa yesterday morning on the way to the world cross-country championships, and a preliminary glance at the entries for Sunday's race in Neuchâtel - home, incidentally, of one of Switzerland's famous cuckoo clock factories - suggests that Miss Budd will have little difficulty in retaining the women's title she won in Lisbon last year.

And she feels that the debate over her eligibility for the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh this summer will be ended by the acceptance of the house that she bought in Guildford before Christmas as her domicile in England, although she has barely lived there. Her eligibility to compete in Edinburgh is in question because, as a former South African, she cannot satisfy the Commonwealth Games Federation stipulation that an athlete who changes countries, as she has done, must spend six of the 12

months before the Games in the "new" country. Tim Hutchings, who was at the British Athletics Writers' Association lunch, which Miss Budd attended yesterday, said that the time had come for the England selectors to take a more serious attitude towards a world cross-country championship, which has a record entry this year of 67 countries, one of the broadest representations of any sporting event in the world.

England's national champion said: "Our results have been achieved in spite of the national championship, which at nine miles is far too long as a selection race for the world championship, which is only seven and a half miles. Also the attitudes and decisions on selection are being taken by people with their heads firmly stuck in the 1950s." The majority of English cross-country officials are not tuned in to modern cross-country. There is a case for having an elite race to select the world team, or even setting up a sponsored squad, which would make for a better team spirit. We've had appalling results in this race in the last few years."

Hutchings was referring to a selection policy which has involved leaving out some of England's best cross-country runners in recent years.

Distinctive out of world event

By Jenny MacArthur

Captain Mark Phillips has had to pull out of the world three day event championships in Australia in May because his eight-year-old horse, Distinctive, owned by the Range Rover team, has developed a contagious skin infection and cannot go into quarantine for the event.

The rest of the horses going to Australia start their quarantine today at Wyke. Capt. Phillips's place in the squad of seven is to be taken by Anne-Marie Taylor, aged 21, and Jimmy Cricket III.

Capt. Phillips is not likely to be unduly upset. Although he was thrilled to have been picked with the horse, he always felt that the opportunity had come a year too soon.

Despite the loss of Capt. Phillips this week and Lucinda Green last week (her horse, Regal Realm, has tweaked a tendon), the British squad for Australia remains powerful, including three of last year's European team

Title holders stand their ground

By Mitchell Platts

There is no substitute for experience, as Linda Bayman emphasized when she partnered Maureen Garner to a one-under-par second round of 72 in four women's Avia Watches on the Red Course at The Berkshire yesterday.

Mrs Bayman, who is seeking a record seventh win in the Avia, and Mrs Garner, improved their prospects of retaining the title by moving alongside Patricia Johnson and Lilian Behan (76) in the halfway lead with a two-over-par aggregate of 148.

Mrs Bayman admitted that she and Mrs Garner were overpowered off the tee by Miss Johnson, the English title holder, and Miss Behan, the British champion, but the defending champions refused to be intimidated by their younger rivals, with whom they were partnered.

Mrs Bayman, however, cost her team the chance of leading with an indifferent four-iron tee shot at the 18th (161 yards), which left Mrs Garner with virtually a full wedge shot to the green, although she had

earlier holed from 10 feet at the sixth for one of their three birdies.

Miss Johnson and Miss Behan, the favourites, were impressive off the tee but their approach shots too often left them a worrying distance from the hole; they took three putts on no fewer than four occasions.

Belle Robertson and Mary McKenna, who won the Avia in 1984, stayed within striking distance with 75 for 151, which put them on the same mark as Carol Caldwell and Lynda Simpson (74). But Helen Dobson and Alison Johns, the two 15-year-olds from Lincolnshire who posted a first round of 74, fell back with an 82.

SECOND ROUND (leading scores): 148: P Johnson (Fyle and Kemble), 72; L Behan (Carragh), 72; B J E Bayman (Berkshire), 76; J J Garner (Portsmouth), 76; 72: C Caldwell (Surrey), 77; 74: L Simpson (Trent), 77; 74: C Robertson (Duneworthy), 76; 75: M McKenna (Donabate), 76; 75: 154: S Moorcraft (Thorndon Park), 75; 78: F Hammond (Lansington and County), 78; B Mcintosh (Gulfanes), 80; 74: P Harvie (Walton Heath), 80, 74.

More golf, page 36

Pay Corps leave empty-handed

By Sydney Friskin

45 Fd Regt RA... 1
RAPC Worthy Down... 0

A goal by Ian Jolly from a penalty stroke in the first period of extra time decided the Army Cup (UK) final at Aldershot yesterday. It enabled the 45th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery, to break the monopoly of the Royal Army Pay Corps, Worthy Down, who had won the trophy nine times in the past 10, losing only in 1982.

Besides Jolly, the Artillery team had Strachan from the combined Army side that recently won the Services championship. They fashioned most of the attacks yesterday but little advantage was taken of Jolly's creative ability.

The RAPC survived as long as they did because of the splendid goalkeeping of Rutherford and some stouthearted defence by Muldoway. Their resources in attack, however, were limited and in consequence the Artillery goalkeeper had a fairly comfortable afternoon.

Frequent infringements led

to a total of 20 short corners, 13 of which were earned by the Artillery. The twelfth of these awards led to the penalty stroke when a defender's foot on the line stopped the hit from the top of the circle by 'Makand Singh. Jolly made no mistake from the spot, but if he had not missed the target from a short corner in the fifth minute of play this match might have ended much earlier.

In the second period of extra time the RAPC lost Duffy, who suffered a facial injury at a short corner and was led off the field. As they had already used two substitutes they could not bring on another man, but still in the dying minutes they came close to a goal.

46 FIELD REGIMENT RA: Sgt G Warner; WO1 K Dennis, Maj D Clibbey, Sgt M Fitzhings, Capt I Jolly, Sgt P Simpson, WO1 M Kiley, Cpl Malcolm Singh, Bt Strachan, Bt S Howland, Gnr A Green.

RAPC WORTHY DOWN: Maj D Rutherford, Maj G Horan, WO1 R Muldoway, Lt M Abbott, S/Sgt S Williams, Sgt D Cassidy, Cpl R Barrington (Subst G Brown), S/Sgt T Duffy, Capt T Cross, Sgt Long, WO1 P Richards (Sub: WO1 S Stephens).

SPORT IN BRIEF

Share issue a success

The British America's Cup Challenge share issue, launched at the beginning of last month, has raised £3 million and was over-subscribed, according to the BACC director, David Arnold. The Challenge's first yacht, Crusader, arrived in Fremantle, Western Australia, last Friday; the second, being prepared at Cougar Marine on the Hamble, will be shipped from Felixstowe on April 11.

Walliser wins

Waterville Valley, New Hampshire (AP) - Maria Walliser, of Switzerland, clinched the women's World Cup overall title yesterday when officials cancelled a giant slalom because of severe rain. Miss Walliser, who has battled her compatriot, Erika Hess, for the lead since early January, accumulated 275 points. Miss Hess, a two-time champion, earned 238 points.

More skiing, page 36

Reducing costs

The six national sports centres, at Crystal Palace, Bisham Abbey, Lilleshall, Holme Pierpoint, Cowes and Plas y Brenin, have been asked to reduce their costs deficit from £3.4 million to £2 million for the 1987-88 financial year.

Driving force

The Football Association of Ireland have signed a sponsorship agreement worth £400,000 with Opel, the car manufacturer. Opel's involvement will be spread over four years. They are the association's biggest sponsors.

Threat softens

The threat of a "super league breakaway" receded slightly at yesterday's Rugby League management committee meeting. Officials pointed out to the 10 clubs in question that the coaching committee, led by the Great Britain manager, Les Berrington, had for three months been considering possibilities of taking the very steps demanded by the clubs. These include distribution of television and sponsorship income, and voting rights of first and second division clubs.

Kelly agrees

Sean Kelly, of Ireland, has agreed to take part in the Nissan international classic for a second time starting from October 1. Kelly is an obvious favourite to retain the championship in his native land. The prize list of the five-day event has increased to almost £20,000. The race will start and finish in Dublin and will pass through Kelly's home town, Carrick-on-Suir, on the penultimate day.

COURSE: October 1: Dublin to Galway, 125 miles. October 2: Galway to Limerick, 90 miles. October 3: Limerick to Kilmoy, 60 miles; Kilmoy to Cork, 60 miles. October 4: Cork to Clonmel, 110 miles. October 5: Clonmel to Dublin, 60 miles.

England's game still uncertain

By Stuart Jones Football Correspondent

The Football Association were still waiting last night to hear whether England's international against the Soviet Union in Tbilisi can go ahead as planned next Wednesday. The FA asked for permission to fly directly to the capital of Georgia rather than via Moscow but no official response has been received.

If the Soviet authorities insist that the England squad travel through Moscow both on the way out and on the way back, the match will be cancelled. The FA, who are to make their decision this morning will then attempt to arrange a fixture against another European nation next Wednesday.

The list of potential candidates who could either act as hosts or be invited to play at Wembley include Belgium, The Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland, none of whom are involved in international games next week. Not in Greece, Liechtenstein and Malta, though they would be less suitable opponents.

More football, page 38

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